MASS. Y3.SR1/1: 981-991 Inc.

UMASS/AMHERST
312066 0385 6567 7

1991 ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING

and

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE	1
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	2
REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING	3
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING	4
COMMISSIONERS	6
COMMITTEES	7
STAFF	7
BUDGET	8

ANNUAL REPORT CREDITS

Editor	Stephen C. Smith
Graphics and Layout	Susan W. Sherman
Typing and Graphics Assistant	Anne M. Dufresne

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

This has been a tough year for the public sector, and SRPEDD is no exception.

The Beacon Hill budget crisis and the New England recession have made for difficult times, and our own budget situation has not been rosy. We began the year with our own fiscal uncertainties, but with the close supervision of our Finance Committee, we are in much better financial shape entering the new fiscal year. We are leaner, but we have a clearer sense of who we are and what we can do.

The state and local budget crisis drastically changed our ability to perform certain work. While our overall budget shrank by 10% from the previous year, federal participation actually increased. Direct state grants shrank to zero, while municipal contracts dropped by nearly 50%. When you consider that "He who pays the piper calls the tune," it is clear that we are setting our work program priorities based upon the wants and needs of Washington.

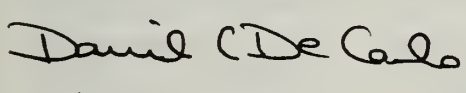
We had our high points, however. Our "Rethinking Government in the '90's" Conference, jointly organized with BayBank South and the Old Colony Planning Council, was a great success. We took the lead on several important and often controversial regional issues, including commuter rail to the region, historical water rights, the proposal for a second major airport, and regional land use planning and regulation. We have continued to set priorities for federal transportation and economic development funding that are followed by the federal agencies. We have tried to face the tough issues facing southeastern Massachusetts despite the fiscal woes faced by all levels of government.

This report highlights our activities for the twelve month period from July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991.

- Pages 2-5 describe work activities in our three major areas: economic development; regional planning and technical assistance (including environmental planning); and transportation planning.
- Pages 6 and 7 tell who SRPEDD is--Commission, Committees and staff.
- Page 8 describes our budget.

Please take the time to review the report to find out how SRPEDD helps you. We believe in regional solutions to problems and look forward to working for southeastern Massachusetts in the future.

Respectfully,



Daniel C. DeCarlo
Chairman

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 1990-91, SRPEDD faced new challenges in economic development. Instead of the "Massachusetts Miracle" with its unemployment rates as low as 5% in the region, the decade of the 90's brought the "Massachusetts Mess," with monthly unemployment rates in some cities at nearly 20%.

A government fiscal crisis, a private sector credit crunch, and a virtual collapse of construction activity all brought the economy to the point of stagnation. Activities of SRPEDD to rejuvenate our economy included:

- Preparation of the Overall Economic Development Program. This EDA-funded strategy for economic recovery focuses on infrastructure projects for federal funding. The OEDP ranks the top projects for EDA funding, but also includes 32 other infrastructure projects.

Priority Projects: 1990-1991 OEDP:

1. Taunton-Phase II Myles Standish Industrial Park
2. New Bedford-Industrial Park Expansion
3. Wareham-Phase II Industrial Park
4. Wareham-Business Incubator
5. Westport-Route 6 Watermain

- Regional Industrial Land Plan-This report lists all industrially zoned land, rates its suitability for development, and projects future need.
- Industrial Source Reduction-Two seminars for industry to learn to reduce the use of toxic substances were held in the New Bedford area. Industrial source reduction is a key component in making certain industries more competitive and profitable in the long term.

"The state's unemployment rate for 1990 was slightly above the nation's for the first year in 13 years. The Massachusetts Miracle is over. In fact Massachusetts is presently in the midst of the worst recession in recent history." 1990-91 Overall Economic Development Program for Southeastern Massachusetts.

- SEED Corporation-SRPEDD supports staff activity of SEED Corp., which processes loans for the Small Business Administration as well as under its own Human Capital and Revolving Loan Funds. Despite the credit crunch, SEED packaged 17 SBA loans and guarantees in the amount of $3.5 million; and lent out $230,000 to 5 businesses under its own programs. These loans facilitated the creation of an estimated 221 jobs.
- SRPEDD continued to provide information and technical assistance to business and municipal clients. Scores of developers and businesses receive information from SRPEDD.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING

Regional planning consists of visionary undertakings as well as more modest efforts addressing small local problems.

- Assawompset Ponds Advisory Committee-Protection of the region's main source of drinking water for 200,000 residents is the main goal of this project. With a grant from the state DEP (using federal EPA funds), SRPEDD has worked with the cities of New Bedford and Taunton and the towns of Freetown, Lakeville, Middleborough, and Rochester to define existing and potential sources of pollution to Long, Assawompset, Pocksha, Great and Little Quitticas Ponds. The goal is a memorandum of understanding among all the parties.

The five Lakeville Ponds are the main or secondary water sources for eleven communities: Taunton, Dighton, Raynham, Berkley, Lakeville, Middleborough, Bridgewater, New Bedford, Freetown, Acushnet and Dartmouth.

- Master plan sections, a housing plan, and subdivision reviews were among the services performed by SRPEDD under contract to the Plainville Planning Board.
- A survey of town residents was prepared for the Fairhaven Planning Board.
- SRPEDD reviews development proposals and grant applications for regional consistency. In the past year, 65 reviews were conducted.
- A strategic plan was prepared for the Greater Fall River United Way.
- A Housing Market Study was conducted for a 20 unit subsidized development planned for Middleborough.
- Under contract to Boston Edison, SRPEDD organized the first Earthlab Conference held in Carver in October.
- Zoning revisions and technical assistance were provided to Somerset.
- SRPEDD participates actively with the Buzzards Bay Project in the multi agency effort to clean up and preserve Buzzards Bay.
- The Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission- Second Major Airport Siting Study recommended three sites in SRPEDD for further study. The Ad Hoc Airport Study Committee recommended that SRPEDD remain neutral to provide unbiased analysis of the final sites.

"As we plan for the region's future transportation needs, its economic strategy, its future land use patterns and the priorities for environmental protection, our work is completely overshadowed by whether or not there will be a major airport in the region."

Letter to the Mass. Aeronautics Commission requesting a regional role in the study for a second major airport.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

One of SRPEDD's major responsibilities is to provide transportation planning for the region. The Mass. Dept. of Public Works (MDPW), the Federal Highway Admin. (FHWA), the Urban Mass Transportation Admin. (UMTA), the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA), and the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) all contract with SRPEDD.

ROUTE 44/MIDDLEBOROUGH CIRCLE

The area around the Middleborough Circle and I-495 has seen rapid growth during the 1980's and is projected to be the highest growth area in SRPEDD in the future. With this growth comes traffic, and from 1980 - 1990, three of the top five locations for growth in traffic were in Middleborough.

Planning for this traffic impact has been a high priority for SRPEDD, as noted below:

- Southeastern Massachusetts Transportation Management Association-The developers, businesses and public officials who comprise the SMTMA adopted a plan of action in 1991. The plan's primary objective is to protect the region's access as a means of encouraging desirable economic development.

- Route 44 Task Force-This citizen's group met twice and three newsletters were published to inform citizens of plans and developments in the Route 44 area.

- Traffic Projections-At the request of the Mass. Dept. of Public Works, SRPEDD prepared projections of traffic to the year 2020 along the entire corridor.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

All local transportation studies prepared by SRPEDD address existing and projected traffic problems and contributory land uses. In the past year, the following reports were completed:

- Seekonk Corridor Study (Route 6/I-195)-Reducing and preventing congestion created by a concentration of retail stores was the objective of this study. A Special Permit District was the principal result.

- Taunton-Dighton Growth Management Study-A buildout analysis and a computer model of the road network were employed in the analysis of this high growth area. A widening of Route 44, mixed use zones, better roadway access controls and greater setbacks are among the recommendations.

- Wareham Economic Development Traffic Impact Study-An analysis and recommended road improvements were contained in this study of the traffic network around the Wareham Industrial Park.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

SRPEDD continues to provide computerized accident filing for eleven towns and has provided pavement management assistance to six towns.

TRANSIT PLANNING

- SRPEDD worked with both GATRA and SRTA on issues such as route evaluations, marketing, service to elderly and handicapped persons and overall data compilation and analysis.
- Commuter rail was a top concern in this region in 1990-91. SRPEDD has strongly supported the extension of the Old Colony line to Middleborough/Lakeville, but has raised concerns over the Stoughton line extension to Fall River and New Bedford.

TIP - TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN	
A major responsibility of SRPEDD is to prioritize federal funding for transportation projects. These are the top projects in this year's TIP. These projects were advertised for construction bids in 1991 by the Mass. Department of Public Works (with the exception of the Faunce Corner Road interchange). The estimated value of these 6 construction projects is over $9 million.	
Category	Number One Regional Priority
Interstate 4R	Dartmouth-Interchange improvements at Faunce Corner Road and I-195 (ROW/PE)
Consolidated Primary	Middleborough-I-495 Bridge over Fall Brook
Interstate Transfer	Seekonk-Improvements at Route 6 and Anthony and School Streets
Urban Systems	Taunton-Intersection Improvements at eight locations
Highway Bridge R&R	Attleboro-Replace Pond Street Bridge over Conrail
Rural Secondary	Acushnet-Reconstruction of Middle Road
Hazard Elimination	Lakeville-Improvements at the intersection of Routes 18, 105 and Precinct Street

COMMISSIONERS

Each city and town in the SRPEDD district is represented by two commissioners - the Mayor/Chairman of the Board of Selectmen or their designee; and a member of the Planning Board. In addition, there are At-Large Commissioners representing low income and minority group interests. The Commissioners below served between July, 1990 and June, 1991.

CITY/TOWN	BD. SELECTMEN	PLANNING BOARD
Acushnet		
Attleboro	William Woloshyn	Robert Mawney
Berkley	Karl Eklund	Charles Chester
Carver	Francis Kane	Stephen DiRado*
Dartmouth	Lorri-Ann Miller	Basil Castaldi
Dighton	Allan Campbell	Robert Danforth
Fairhaven	Wayne Fostin	Raymond Fleurent
Fall River	Daniel DeCarlo	Robert Alves
Freetown	Barbara Trainor	Bruce Wilbur
	Robert Robidoux*	
Lakeville	Sandra Cataldo	Pietro Panettieri*
Mansfield		Mike McClanahan
		Michael Cadden*
Marion	Loretta Schaefer	William Washburn
	James Dougall*	Timothy Putnam*
Mattapoisett	Robert Black	Barry Denham
Middleborough	Joseph Walker	Mary Jo Curtis*
New Bedford	Richard Bohn	
North Attleborough	Raymond Payson	Patricia Redding
Norton	Paula Driscoll	Ken Zanoni
Plainville	Andrea Soucy	Glenn Lyon
	Mark Coleman*	John Adams*
Raynham	Emeline MacDonald	John Canto
Rehoboth	Jacqueline Rogan	Donna McCombs
		Melissa Quinn*
Rochester	George Bare	
	Allen Stata*	
Seekonk	David Young	Robert Lombardi
		Gordon Yaghjian*
Somerset	Linda Fernandes	David Cordeiro*
Swansea	Michael Finglas	
Taunton	Bill Fitzgerald	John Viveiros
Wareham	Gus Yankopoulos	
Westport	Daniel George	Edmund Medeiros
At-Large		
New Bedford	Jayme Dias	Heather Bare

*New Appointment, June, 1991.

COMMITTEES

Much of the work undertaken by SRPEDD is carried out by Committees comprised of individuals from inside and outside the Commission.

COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSON
Executive Committee	Daniel DeCarlo
Finance Committee	Emeline MacDonald
Personnel Committee	Daniel DeCarlo
Joint Transportation Planning Group	Robert DelRosso
Municipal Assistance/Regional Conference Committee	Jayme Dias
Economic Development Committee	Basil Castaldi
Ad Hoc Airport Committee	Daniel DeCarlo
Assawompset Ponds Advisory Committee	Stephen Smith
Commuter Rail Subcommittee	Roland Hebert/John Pobst
Route 44 Task Force	Roland Hebert
Southeastern Mass. TMA	Russell Kingman
SEED Corp. Board of Directors	Mayor Richard Johnson
SEED Corp. Loan Review Committee	Stewart Washburn

STAFF

Joanne Bouchard	SEED Assistant
Nancy Bumbaugh	Principal Secretary
Diane Crowne	Principal Transit Planner
Anne Dufresne	Senior Secretary
Marilyn Fischer	Fiscal Officer
Cheryl Field	Senior Bookkeeper
Maria Gooch	SEED Executive Director
James Hadfield	Dir. of Highway Planning
Bruce Hamblin	Comprehensive Planner
Roland Hebert	Transportation Plng. Manager
Paul Mission	Sr. Transportation Planner
William Napolitano	Principal Environmental Plnr.
Thomas Pisaturo	Deputy Director
John Pobst	Dir. of Transit Services
Susan Sherman	Head of Graphics
Stephen Smith	Executive Director
Helena Sousa	Maintenance Aide
Rachel Tedesco	Principal Transportation Plnr.

BUDGET

Our Fiscal Year 1991 Budget (July 1, 1990-June 30, 1991) brought some real changes from the previous year. The overall budget level dropped by 10% (after pass through funds are removed), and overall staff salaries decreased by 13%.

The federal government picked up 70% of the funding to SRPEDD, while the state participation was limited to passing through (and in one case matching) federal grants. The local fiscal crisis was reflected in a drop in funds of nearly half from local contracts.

SOURCES OF FUNDS

	FY1990	FY1991	Change 90-91
Federal*	$502,995	$542,708	+7.9%
State	9,320	-0-	--
Municipal Contracts	107,209	56,753	-47.1%
Assessments	78,454	78,806	--
Other Local	81,587	66,888	-18.0%
In-Kind Services	29,221	32,280	+10.5%
Total	808,786	777,435	
(Less Pass Thru)	-35,000	-80,042	
Net Total	$773,786	$697,393	-9.9%

*Includes State agency pass through and some state match.

Transportation planning continued to be the number one activity of SRPEDD, as measured by dollars. Over 50% of the agency's budget is devoted to this purpose. Economic development funding increased in FY'91, reflecting a technical assistance grant from EDA. Local contracts dropped dramatically due to the Massachusetts fiscal crisis.

USE OF FUNDS

	FY1990	FY1991	Change 90-91
Transportation	$420,322	$398,163	-5.3%
Economic Development	141,292	161,083	+14.0%
Environment	64,683	29,338	-54.6%
Local Tech. Assistance	121,748	72,371	-40.6%
Other	31,520	31,200	-1.0%
Pass thru/In-kind	29,221	85,280	+192%
Total	$808,786	$777,435	-9.6%

NORFOLK
WRENTHAM
FOXBOROUGH
SHARON
EASTON
MANSFIELD
PLAINVILLE
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
CUMBERLAND
NORTON
ATTLEBORO
TAUNTON
RAYNHAM
BRIDGEWATER
HALIFAX
PEMBROKE
DUXBURY
KINGSTON
PLYMPTON
MIDDLEBOROUGH
PLYMOUTH
CARVER
WAREHAM
BRISTOL
PLYMOUTH
SEEKONK
REHOBOTH
DIGHTON
BERKLEY
LAKEVILLE
SWANSEA
SOMERSET
FREETOWN
ROCHESTER
FALL RIVER
MARION
ACUSHNET
MATTAPOISETT
NEW BEDFORD
MT. HOPE BAY
FAIRHAVEN
RHODE ISLAND
WESTPORT
DARTMOUTH
TIVERTON
LITTLE COMPTON
BUZZARDS BAY
SAPEDO
MASSACHUSETTS
legend
district boundary
county boundary
town boundary
highways
under construction or proposed
5 0 5 10 15
SCALE
MILES

Southeastern Regional Planning and
Economic Development District
88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780

MASS. Y3. SR1/1: 990 V

1990
ANNUAL REPORT

Southeastern Regional Planning
And
Economic Development District
88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
NOV 25 1991
University of Massachusetts Depository Copy

CHAIRMAN' S MESSAGE

Regionalism is making a comeback.

Throughout the 1989-90 program year, we have seen great evidence of this trend. The Special Commission on Growth and Change in the Commonwealth issued its report with a strong regional component. The Cape Cod Commission was created by legislative action and a special referendum. Cities and towns looked more often to each other to solve problems without the customary state and federal finances.

Is SRPEDD ready to meet the regional challenge? Not as ready as we need to be.

Our financial resources are SRPEDD's biggest obstacle at the moment. With a budget and work program dictated largely by federal and state agencies, we do not have full control over our work program. Less than 7% of our budget is unencumbered by contractual responsibilities. Transportation activities take up 50%. Are we a transportation planning agency or a regional planning agency?

To fulfill a larger mission, we must make best use of scarce resources. Led by Vice Chairman Jayme Dias, we have restructured the way we provide Municipal Assistance. The program of "how to" newsletters, workshops and replicable projects offer help to our member communities and the region.

Second, we must better use volunteer resources in the region. Strong working committees will make Commission service more meaningful and attract many more talented individuals to work for a better region.

Finally, all Commissioners must be clear and agree upon the mission and goals of the District. This unity of purpose will provide the strongest base for future growth of SRPEDD.

My career change from Planning Director in Taunton to the Environmental Lobby of Massachusetts should enable me to serve SRPEDD on another front. I believe that both planning and environmental issues benefit from a regional approach.

I want to thank my fellow officers, committee chairs and members of the Commission. I appreciated serving as your Chairman and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

William A. Fitzgerald, Chairman

STAFF

Stephen C. Smith - Executive Director
Thomas A. Pisaturo - Deputy Director,Comprehensive Planning Manager
Roland J. Hebert - Transportation Planning Manager
James C. Hadfield - Director of Highway Planning
John J. Pobst - Director of Transit Planning
Diane E . Crowne - Principal Transit Planner
Rachel G. Tedesco - Principal Transportation Planner
Paul Mission - Senior Transportation Planner
Wiliam A. Napolitano - Principal Environmental Planner
Gregory Guimond - Principal Comprehensive Planner
Susan W. Sherman - Head of Graphics
Anita E. Sabourin - Graphics Specialist
Shirley E. Louro - Business Manager
Marilyn B. Fischer - Fiscal Officer
Nelia P. Sousa - Senior Bookkeeper
Nancy J. Bumbaugh - Principal Secretary
Anne Dufresne - Senior Secretary
Maria G. Gooch - SEED Executive Director
Michele S. Stone - Director of Administration, SEED Loan Officer
Joanne M. Bouchard - SEED Assistant
Wilbur G. Tirrell - Legal Specialist
Zak S. Tucker - Rehoboth / Swansea Shared Planner
Albert O. Barbour - Senior Engineer
Craig D. Bloom - Freetown / Lakeville Shared Planner

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The year 1990 saw the departure of four long term staff members with a combined sixty-seven years of service. These individuals are to be saluted for their dedication and loyalty to SRPEDD. Through good times and bad times they have steadied the course. They have been part of SRPEDD's evolution, and all have contributed to make this a better organization over the years. They are:

Michele Stone - Director of Administration; SEED Loan Officer
Shirley Louro - Business Manager
Wilbur Tirrell - Legal Specialist
Anita Sabourin - Graphics Specialist

We wish them well, and although they will no longer be staff members, they will always be family.

COMMISSIONERS

	Mayor or Selectmen's Delegate	Planning Board Delegate
ACUSHNET		
ATTLEBORO	William Woloshyn*	Robert Mawney
BERKLEY	Richard Germaine	Charles Chester
CARVER	Francis Kane	Nelia Anderson
DARTMOUTH	Lori-Ann Miller	Dr. Basil Castaldi*
DIGHTON	Allan Campbell*	Manuel Ferreira
FAIRHAVEN	Nicholas Tangney*	Raymond Fleurent*
FALL RIVER	Dan DeCarlo*	Robert Alves
FREETOWN		Bruce Wilber
LAKEVILLE	Luke Leonard*	
MANSFIELD		
MARION	Loretta Schaefer*	William Washburn
MATTAPOISETT	Robert Black	Barry Denham
MIDDLEBOROUGH	Larry Carver	Sherrill Neilsen, Esq.
NEW BEDFORD	Alfred Lima*	
NO. ATTLEBOROUGH	Raymond Payson	Patricia Redding*
NORTON	Ralph Stefanelli	Ken Zanoni
PLAINVILLE	Andrea Soucy	Steven Cobb
PLYMPTON	Lee A. Johnson	John English
RAYNHAM	Emeline MacDonald*	John Canto
REHOBOTH	Jacqueline Rogan	Donna McCombs
ROCHESTER	George G. Bare*	
SEEKONK	Charles Terzian	Robert Lombardi
SOMERSET	Donald J. Hussey*	Raymond McConnell
SWANSEA	Michael Finglas	
TAUNTON	William Fitzgerald*	John Viveiros*
WAREHAM	Gus Yankopoulos*	Charles Gabriel
WESTPORT	Sally Adams	Edmund Medeiros
AT-LARGE		
ATTLEBORO AREA	William Hopkins	
FALL RIVER AREA		
NEW BEDFORD AREA	Jayme Dias*	Heather G. Bare
TAUNTON AREA		

* Executive Committee

OFFICERS

WILLIAM FITZGERALD, CHAIRMAN
JAYME DIAS, VICE CHAIRMAN
LORETTA SCHAEFER, SECRETARY
DONALD J. HUSSEY, TREASURER
EMELINE MACDONALD, ASSISTANT TREASURER
ALLAN CAMPBELL, PAST CHAIRMAN

ABOUT THIS REPORT

We have chosen a different format for our annual report this year, providing a geographic perspective on our work rather than by work program category such as transportation, economic development and land use planning.

But we do not want you to lose sight of the fact that SRPEDD is a regional organization, dedicated to addressing regional problems. Our "region" for any particular issue may range from only two communities to SRPEDD's entire 28 communities and more. The approach should fit the problem.

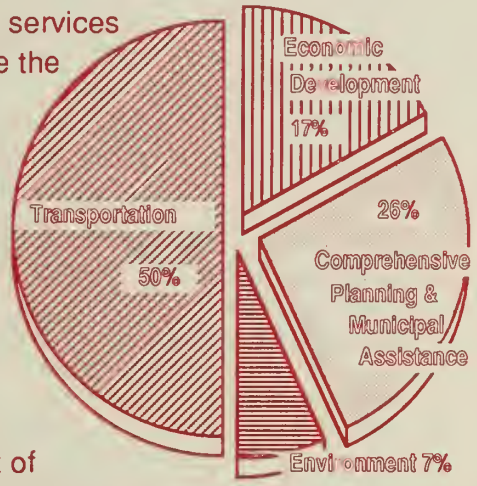
So as you review this report and note what SRPEDD did in your city or town, please do not forget the regional focus of this organization.

Contributors
Editor - Steve Smith
Layout , Computer Typesetting, Graphics - Sue Sherman
Secretarial Support - Nancy Bumbaugh, Anne Dufresne

This report covers the period of July 1989 to June 1990.

BUDGET

In fiscal year 1989, SRPEDD had a budget of $824,930. Federal grants, including funds passed through state agencies, represented 58 percent of total income. Local contracts, assessments, and in-kind services equalled 37 percent, while the contributions from state sources was 5 percent.



During the fiscal year the agency had 25 separate contracts ranging from $800 to $216,000.

Approximately 68 percent of SRPEDD's expenditures was for salaries, 9 percent for consultants and in-kind services, 3 percent in an investment account, and 20 percent for overhead and direct expences.

1990 SRPEDD ACTIVITIES

1 — Plainville Technical Assistance
SRPEDD continued its program of technical assistance to the Planning Board by reviewing development proposals, preparing by-law revisions, and updating Master Plan sections.

Plainville Open Space Plan
In a unique collaboration with Wentfield State College, SRPEDD wrote a new open space plan for the town.

2 — Plainville Route 152 / 106 Traffic Study
SRPEDD examined safety, capacity and traffic growth at this hazardous intersection and offered a series of solutions ranging from traffic signal modifications to a full reconstruction and realignment.

3 — Transportation Plan - Northwest Subarea
The municipalities of Attleboro, North Attleborough, Plainville, Mansfield & Norton are the first subarea to be updated as part of the Regional Transportation Plan Refinement. A computer model has been developed for the entire road network.

4 — North Attleborough Master Plan
SRPEDD continued work on the Master plan. During 1990 a report on public facilities and a plan summary were prepared.

5 — City of Taunton
SRPEDD reviewed several development proposals for the Taunton Planning Board, including the proposed regional Silver City Galleria Mall.

6 — Freetown / Lakeville Shared Planner
Budget cutbacks at state and local levels resulted in the elimination of this successful program in 1989.

7 — Rehoboth Open Space Plan
A new open space plan for the town, complete with computerized mapping was commenced in 1990.

8 — Solid Waste Support
SRPEDD worked with the Aquawan Regional Solid Waste Committee representing 11 cities and towns to find solutions to regional solid waste problems.

9 — North Oighton /Taunton Traffic and Growth Management Study
SRPEDD has been analyzing growth and traffic problems in the Route 44 / Warner Boulevard area in Taunton and North Oighton. A buildout analysis and traffic and zoning recommendations are being prepared.

10 — Pavement Management - Rochester / Seekonk / Somerset
SRPEDD provides assistance to towns to better manage their annual road improvement programs. Using a computer, road data provided by the towns is analyzed, assigned improvement repairs, and organized in a priority order for roads to be repaired.

11 — Rehoboth / Swansea Shared Planner Project
With state and local funding, SRPEDD continued the shared planner program into its third year.

12 — Route 6 Traffic and Growth Management Study
SRPEDD prepared a buildout analysis, traffic projections, by-law changes and transportation improvement recommendations in this study of the Route 6 Corridor through Seekonk, Rehoboth and Swansea.

13 — Somerset Subdivision Regulations
New subdivision regulations were prepared and adopted by the Somerset Planning Board.

14 — Swansea Transit Study
SRPEDD evaluated the existing transit service in Swansea, with recommendations for improvements.

15 — Taunton River Management Plan
A detailed plan for a fourteen and one - half mile stretch of the Taunton River through Raynham and Taunton was completed. The Taunton River Watershed Alliance was established as a result of this planning effort.

16 — Middleborough Historic District Plan
A preservation plan containing specific zoning and other recommendations was completed for the Middleborough Historic Commission.

Middleborough General Use District
SRPEDD worked with the planning board, Chamber of Commerce and Citizens on a plan for rezoning sections of the town along Route 28 and abutting areas.

17 — Middleborough Gas & Electric
SRPEDD provided assistance to the Middleborough Gas and Electrical Department with respect to future building requirements.

18 — Lakeville Master Plan
SRPEDD assisted in the completion and adoption of this document in 1990.

19 — Southeastern Massachusetts Transportation Management Association - Taunton- Raynham-Middleborough-Lakeville- Plympton - Carver
SRPEDD received an UMTA grant to organize the first-in-the-region Transportation Management Association, representing the business and development community along with the public sector. The SMTMA has been established to plan for anticipated traffic growth while maintaining the area's economic vitality. SRPEDD also established the Route 44 Task Force for citizen input on future road development.

20 — Wareham Traffic Impact Study
SRPEDD examined the impact on the transportation network of the development occuring in the vicinity of the Wareham Industrial Park on route 28.

21 — Wareham Bus Service Study
SRPEDD designed a feasible public transit system for Wareham, with cost and ridership estimates.

22 — Mattapoisett River Valley Underground Storage Tank Study
SRPEDD, through a 205(j) water quality grant, worked with the towns of Acushnet, Rochester, Mattapoisett and Fairhaven to inventory and map all domestic and commercial liquid underground storage tanks.

23 — Buzzards Bay Septage Study
SRPEDD has worked with Boards of Health, Wastewater Treatment Plant operators and septage haulers to assess the needs for appropriate septage management strategies for the Buzzards Bay area.

Buzzards Bay Management Plan
SRPEDD has worked throughout the year with EPA, the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Office and the Buzzards Bay Advisory Committee to produce a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for cleaning and preserving Buzzards Bay.

24 — Fairhaven Board Training
SRPEDD worked with the Town of Fairhaven and the Buzzards Bay Advisory Committee on a series of communication / training sessions involving planning board, board of health, conservation commission, zoning board and other town officials.

25 — Fall River Middle School
SRPEDD studied the impacts on SRTA of the proposed relocation of the Henry Lord Middle School and possible scheduling and routing adjustments by SRTA to the new school location.

SYMBOL EXPLANATION

Economic Development Projects
SRPEDD prepares the Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) annually for southeastern Massachusetts, as required by the Economic Development Administration. The four top projects from 1989 are located on the map.

MEPA (Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act) Reviews
SRPEDD comments on Proposals as part of the MEPA review process. Aspects of projects such as traffic impact, water use, wastewater generation and wetlands encroachment are considered. In the past twelve months, SRPEDD did 72 reviews in 23 municipalities plus 7 statewide project reviews.

SEED Corporation Loans
SRPEDD staffs the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation, which makes loans to small business for job creation. In the past program year, SEED authorized loans to 11 companies depicted here.

Regional Workshops
SRPEDD conducted several workshops, including Boards of Health on going beyond Title V, and other local boards on revolving accounts for review fees.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

SRPEDD provides transportation planning for the region through four contracts using a combination of federal, state and local funds. The Mass. Department of Public Works, The Urban Mass Transportation Administration, the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority(GATRA), and the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) each require technical planning assistance from SRPEDD. SRPEDD performs selected traffic studies, traffic counts, public participation through the Joint Transportation Planning Group, bus route analysis, transit ridership data management, reviews of environmental impact reports, and maintains a Regional Transportation Improvement Program with these funds.

SRPEDD conducted traffic counts in nearly 100 different locations within the district. The traffic counts provided data for various traffic studies, the SRPEDD Regional Traffic Count Program and the MDPW Regional Traffic Count Program.

Accident Filing System
Since 1986 SRPEDD has been providing free computer services to participating police departments.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
The top projects in several highway improvement funding categories as agreed to by the Metropolitan Planning Organization are prioritized in the TIP every year. Cities and towns with #1 priority projects are depicted here.

Southeastern Regional Planning
and
Economic Development District
88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780
(508) 824-1367

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAUNTON, MA 02780
PERMIT NO. 176

MFC Y3.SR1/1:989

ANNUAL REPORT 1989

CONTENTS

1. JOINT STATEMENT
2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3. TRANSPORTATION
4. ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES
5. MAP OF THE REGION
6. PLANNING FOR THE REGION
8. COMMISSION/BUDGET
9. STAFF

CREDITS

EDITOR

Maria Gooch

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION STAFF

Susan Sherman, Graphics

Anne Dufresne, Typing

Nancy Bumbaugh, Typing

Cathleen Goulart, Distribution

ABOUT OUR COVER

Our cover depicts a child's view of planning. It was prepared by 10-year old Sarah Smith as a sixth grade assignment. Since the planning we do today will have an impact on our children's future, Sarah's vision is particularly poignant.

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District
88 Broadway, Taunton, Massachusetts (508) 824-1367

JOINT STATEMENT

Alan L. Campbell, Chairman

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director

PLANNING FOR OUR CHILDREN

In these tight fiscal times, planning is often the first item that is cut. Whether the federal government, state legislature, city council or town meeting is making the budget cuts, the rationale is always the same — sacrifice the future to pay for the present. It is a policy which is going to catch up with us — or our children.

Planning is an investment in our future. Decisions made today on the basis of sound planning will save us money tomorrow.

A well-conceived plan for a growing commercial area that is implemented with proper zoning and other development controls will save us from having to pay for road widening and traffic lights in the future. And it will protect the merchants from losing their investment due to traffic congestion.

An aquifer protection by-law will save us from having to pay to develop new wells in a distant location and pumping clean water to replace a polluted source.

A well-planned industrial park will provide the opportunity for businesses and their employees to save money on transit service, child care facilities and utility costs.

The provision of housing that is affordable for working class families will keep tax-paying and job creating businesses from leaving the region in search of a more plentiful labor supply.

Planning for the future is what SRPEDD does. We are always looking to the future — not a quick payoff.

This annual report contains numerous examples of what we do. The reasons we do it are important. If we're reviewing a subdivision plan for a planning board, we want to make sure that the traffic doesn't clog our streets or the runoff flood a neighbor downstream. If we're conducting a household hazardous waste pickup, we're disposing of waste properly rather than having it dumped down a sink where it eventually finds its way to groundwater or a stream. If we're writing a zoning by-law, we're protecting property values and trying to make the city or town conform to what its residents want it to look like in twenty years.

American industry has been justly criticized for focussing on the "bottom line," and sacrificing long term productivity for short term gain. Let's not make the same mistake in the public sector. Let's continue to plan together for our future and for our children.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS AND NEW JOBS

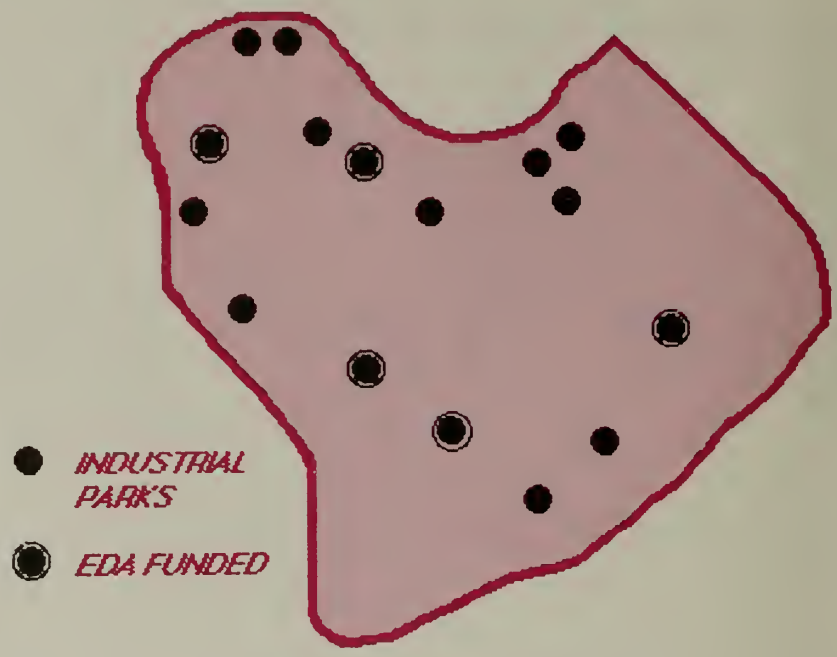
Development in the region is at an all-time high. Unemployment has dipped to an all-time low. The economy is humming.

But what will the future bring? And how can we plan and prepare for the next phase of growth?

The five industrial parks funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration with SRPEDD's assistance are nearly full or have run out of space. The region needs to find new space for industrial growth.

SRPEDD's spin-off, the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation, has grown in its role of providing gap financing for small businesses, but the region's mature industries are still suffering major setbacks.

Apparel and textile industries which provide approximately 20,000 jobs today or 30 percent of all manufacturing jobs, have been losing ground since the seventies. These industries need to develop new market niches and improve productivity.

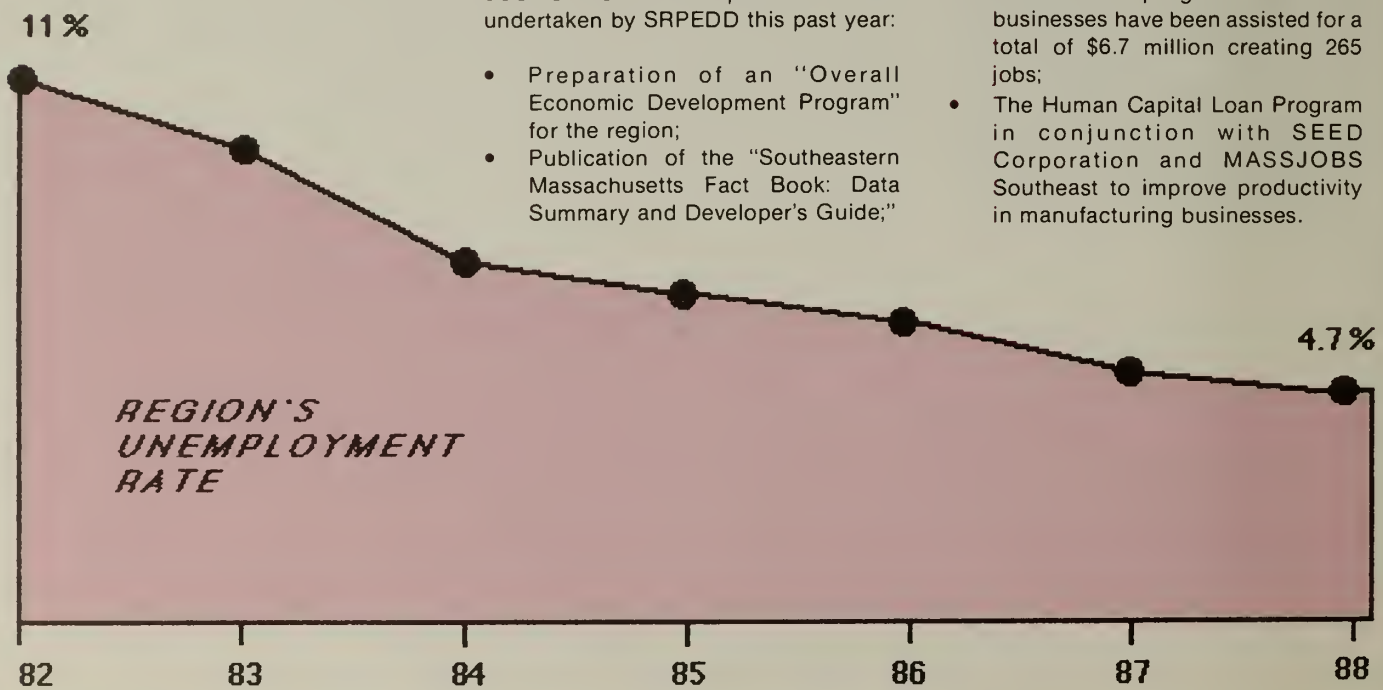


Small start-up businesses with potential for growth also need to be assisted through their first two to three years of development.

These are some of the issues being addressed by SRPEDD's economic development staff with the assistance of the Economic Development Committee.

The following are some of the economic development tasks undertaken by SRPEDD this past year:

- Preparation of an "Overall Economic Development Program" for the region;
- Publication of the "Southeastern Massachusetts Fact Book: Data Summary and Developer's Guide;"
- The Revolving Loan Fund for small businesses through SEED Corporation — under this fund 26 small businesses have been assisted for a total of $834,000 creating 294 new jobs;
- Fixed asset financing under the U.S. Small Business Administration's 504 Program through SEED — under this program 19 small businesses have been assisted for a total of $6.7 million creating 265 jobs;
- The Human Capital Loan Program in conjunction with SEED Corporation and MASSJOBS Southeast to improve productivity in manufacturing businesses.



TRANSPORTATION

Last year SRPEDD continued to plan for the transportation network of southeastern Massachusetts.

Transportation planning has a tremendous impact on growth and development and SRPEDD's planning takes future needs into consideration.

This report outlines briefly some of SRPEDD's major transportation planning efforts for the previous year. For more information please refer to the Transportation Biennial Report.

BRIGHTMAN STREET BRIDGE

Through the hard work of SRPEDD over the last few years, the Brightman Street Bridge is finally on its way to being built.

Basing its decision on SRPEDD's Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Engineering Study, the federal government ruled earlier this year that further environmental studies were not necessary. This step could save as many as two to four years towards completion of the bridge.

The new bridge will be built immediately north of the existing structure. It will be a double-leaf bascule like the existing bridge.

The Brightman Street Bridge carries east-west traffic on U.S. Route 6 and north-south traffic on State Route 138 over the Taunton River between Fall River and Somerset. The bridge, dubbed the "everlasting bridge" when it was completed in 1908, has grown functionally obsolete. It causes frequent and unpredictable traffic delays and is a hazard to shipping on the river.

The new bridge will solve the following problems:

- **NARROW HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE —** The existing 98 foot width for shipping is the most dangerous aspect of the existing bridge. The new bridge will have a 150 foot wide clearance.
- **LOCATION OF OPENING -** The draw opening is on the edge of the channel instead of the center. This is clearly a factor in the high rate of barge collisions with the bridge. The new bridge opening will be in the center of the channel.
- **LOW VERTICAL CLEARANCE —** The 27 foot clearance makes it necessary to open the bridge over 2,400 times per year. The new bridge will have a 60 foot clearance and reduce the yearly openings to under 250.
- **TRAFFIC CONGESTION —** The new bridge eliminates 4 out of 5 traffic signals on Route 6. The intersection in Somerset will be replaced with free flowing ramps.
- **KEEPING ROUTE 6 FLOWING —** The construction of the new bridge will not cause the existing bridge to shut down. After the new bridge is built, and operating, the existing bridge will be removed.
- **NO BUILDING DEMOLITON —** Previous plans for a new bridge involved the taking of homes or businesses for extensive ramps in Somerset. The approved, simplified scheme, is totally on vacant land.

Because SRPEDD, a public agency, was hired to conduct the study, public participation played a major role in the study's recommendations.

SRPEDD organized a citizens task force to discuss and recommend solutions to bridge alignment issues. The most crucial meeting in the public participation process involved all of the shipping interests in the Fall River harbor to discuss and resolve navigation issues for the new bridge.

The proposed new bridge developed out of a strong consensus among the parties involved in the public participation process.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Last fall SRPEDD started a major update to its Regional Transportation Plan. The first phase of the plan is a study of the Attleboro area — the City of Attleboro and the towns of Mansfield, Norton, Plainville and North Attleborough.

A comprehensive transportation study of the area was last conducted 20 years ago. Many of the recommendations from that study have been implemented, highlighted by the completion of I-495 which has been an impetus for accelerated growth in southeastern Massachusetts.

In the past three years, proposals for 5,000 new dwelling units have been made in the five town study area with a potential for 40,000 additional units under current zoning regulations.

A major part of the new study is the development of a computer based traffic model which is capable of determining specific impacts of future land uses. The study will identify existing transportation concerns such as areas of high accidents and traffic congestion.

Public input will play an important role in the development of the Regional Transportation plan, first in identifying existing concerns and then in evaluating the transportation impacts of local growth policies.

The plan will also address: continued bus and commuter rail service; service to the elderly and handicapped; and minimizing adverse impact to the environment.

TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITIES

- Brightman Street Bridge
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Regional Reviews
- Technical Assistance Projects in Attleboro, Norton, Dartmouth, Somerset, Lakeville, Berkley, Dighton, Plainville, Middleborough, Fall River, Raynham and Taunton
- Pavement Maintenance Management
- Special Studies for North Attleborough, Taunton, Seekonk, Fall River and Plympton
- Planning for the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority
- Planning for the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority
- Traffic Accident Filing System
- Traffic Counting

ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES

Providing assistance to its member communities continued to be SRPEDD's top priority this past year. The technical services provided by SRPEDD assist communities to plan for the future.

Outlined below are some of the projects undertaken by SRPEDD for its member municipalities this past year.

MIDDLEBOROUGH GENERAL USE DISTRICT

The zoning and land use study of the Middleborough general use district was completed. The study recommends four new zoning districts to replace the former general use district. In addition, it contains detailed zoning language for the new zoning districts, including development performance standards, use regulations, dimensional requirements and rules and regulations for special permit uses.

The study was conducted in two phases. In the first phase, background data on land use, soils with severe development limitations, wetlands, aquifer recharge areas, agricultural land, and water and sewer service areas was collected. A series of overlay maps at a scale of 1"=1000' was prepared to facilitate the use of the data in the second phase of the study.

In the second phase, three series of land use and zoning plans were prepared and presented to the citizens of Middleborough. Each series of plans was more specific and addressed more clearly the concerns of the town's residents.

TAUNTON SCHOOL PROJECTIONS

SRPEDD completed a study of the impact of recently constructed and approved residential developments on the Taunton public school system. The projections prepared by SRPEDD indicate that there is a potential for 880 new students at the middle school level and 350 at the high school level, over the next ten years.

After completing a comprehensive survey of all residential developments approved since 1980, SRPEDD developed a computerized data base and entered all the relevant information about each development.

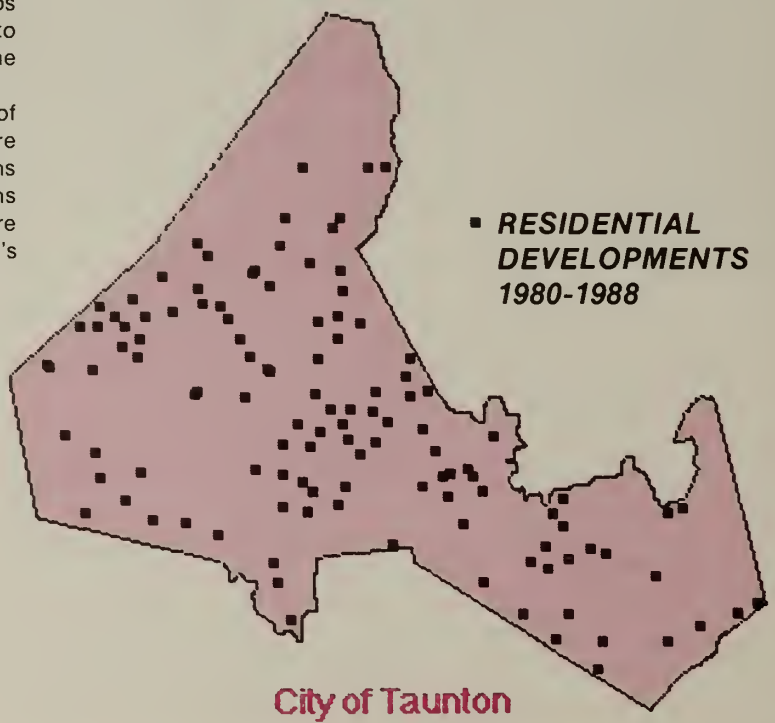
This information included type of development, number of units of each type and number of bedrooms per unit. A computer program was written to project the total number of children which could be expected from each new dwelling unit and the approximate grade level of each child.

These were then sorted and tabulated by elementary, middle and high school districts to produce enrollment projections for each school in the city.

PLAINVILLE TECHNICAL SERVICES

SRPEDD completed the following tasks for Plainville in addition to subdivision reviews:

- Revised the residential cluster development bylaw and prepared the accompanying special permit rules and regulations;
- Developed a groundwater protection bylaw and corresponding overlay district for the zoning map;
- Revised the subdivision rules and regulations;
- Reviewed eight site plan applications for commercial office construction;
- Reviewed three private zoning petitions for the planning board;
- Assisted the town clerk with zoning submittals to the Attorney General's office.



ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES

SHARED TOWN PLANNERS

During the past year, the shared planner projects continued. Craig Bloom provided planning services to the towns of Freetown and Lakeville and Shaun Burke, who was replaced by Zak Tucker this year, provided planning services to Rehoboth and Swansea.

The shared planners provide on-going technical assistance to the planning boards of their respective towns. The types of technical assistance commonly provided include subdivision reviews, preparation and review of zoning bylaw amendments and assistance on affordable housing issues.

Projects of note for the past year included zoning bylaw amendments in Lakeville and Swansea and an open space plan in Swansea.

SUBDIVISION REVIEWS

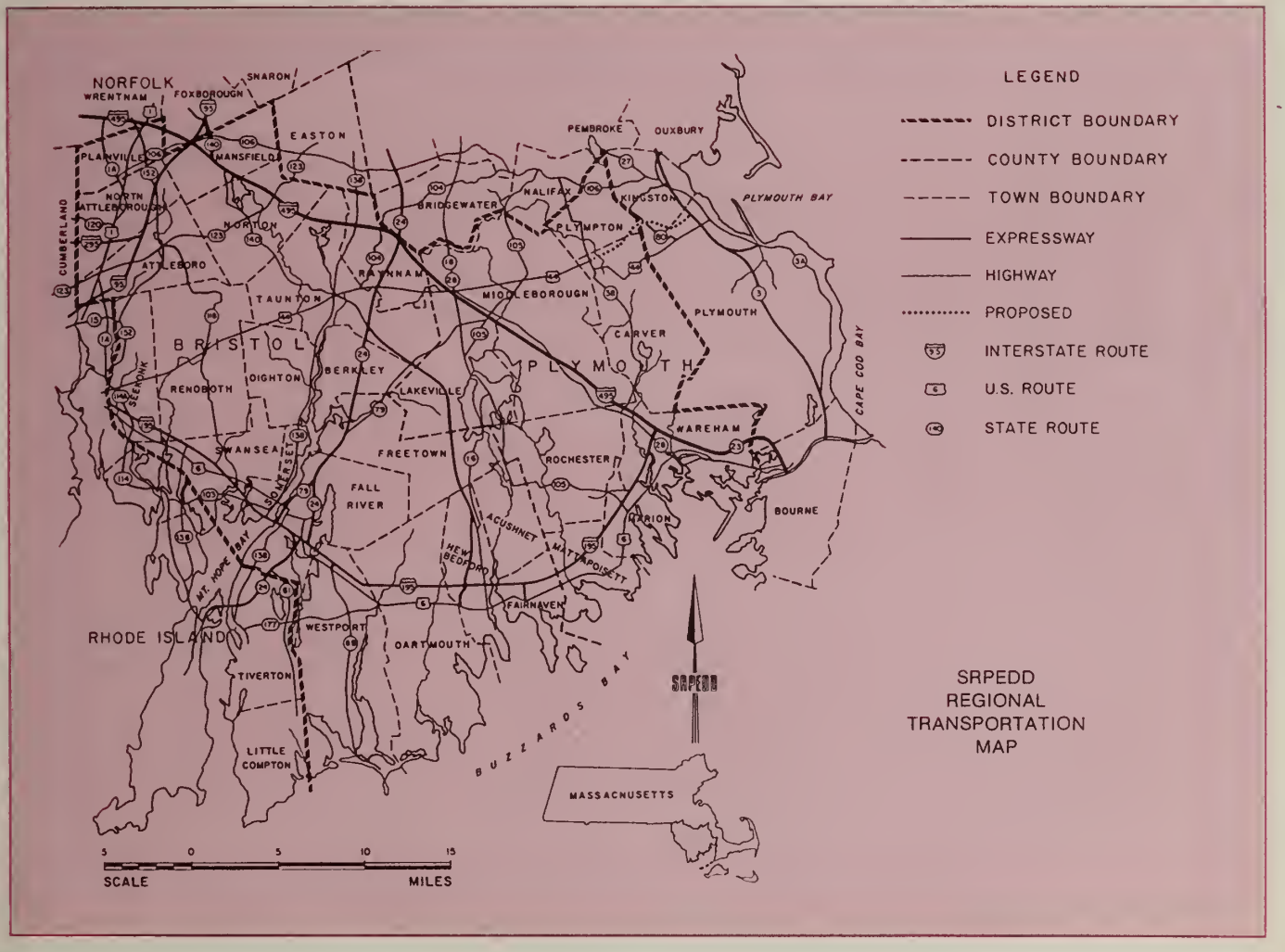
SRPEDD reviewed subdivisions for a number of municipalities. The subdivision reviews are conducted by the SRPEDD consulting engineer, a planner, and, when required, legal counsel. The focus of the review is on: compliance with municipal standards and regulations, roadway layout, drainage design, lot layouts, provisions for recreation and open space and potential off-site impacts.

As part of a technical services contract with Plainville, SRPEDD reviewed several subdivision proposals. SRPEDD provided similar subdivision reviews for Taunton on several large subdivisions and also reviewed subdivisions for Dighton, Fairhaven, Swansea and Wareham.

OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

During the past year, SRPEDD provided technical assistance to a number of municipalities. This assistance was provided under contract and using municipal assistance time. Listed below are some of the projects.

- Carver - Site Plan Review Bylaw
- Fairhaven - Open Space Plan Update; Grant Applications
- Mansfield - Town Map Update
- Mattapoisett - Open Space Plan
- North Attleborough - Master Plan Update
- Plainville - Aquifer Protection Bylaw; Subdivision Regulations
- Somerset - Zoning Bylaw Recodification; Zoning Amendment Review
- Taunton - Zoning Map Revision



PLANNING FOR THE REGION

Planning for the future of southeastern Massachusetts is SRPEDD's role. In its planning SRPEDD takes a regional perspective and considers the needs and concerns of the region's residents.

During the past year, SRPEDD was involved in a number of regional planning projects as outlined below.

WATER SUPPLY AND PROTECTION

Under a contract from the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering, SRPEDD prepared a water supply and protection report for the district. The report summarized information on the water supply system and groundwater protection strategy of each municipality.

This project also included a joint SRPEDD/Mass. GIS./U.S. Geological Survey mapping venture. This mapping activity was the first such joint venture in Massachusetts. The result of this effort is a map of municipal groundwater supplies, primary zones of contribution and groundwater protection districts.

(Sun Chronicle photo by K. Nordstrom)

EPA Regional Administrator Michael Deland, EOEA Secretary John DeVillars and DEM Commissioner James Gutensohn view the Robbins Company's plating line. SRPEDD presented a Special Recognition Award to the Robbins Company in 1989 for its pioneering efforts in source reduction.

SAMPLE BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

As part of the EPA-Sponsored Buzzards Bay Project, SRPEDD published in 1989 a compilation of "Sample By-laws and Regulations" to assist cities and towns to preserve and protect this coastal estuary. The report contains recommended local ordinances for the following areas.

- Wetlands protection
- Aquifer protection
- Subdivision regulations
- Earth removal
- Underground storage tanks
- Stormwater runoff
- Septic systems
- Seasonal home conversions
- Harbor management
- Surface water zoning

Most of the bylaws and regulations contained in the report are adapted from actual samples that have been enacted in the state.

SOUTHEAST JEWELERS PLATERS PROGRAM

SRPEDD completed its third year of involvement in the Southeast Jewelers Platers Program, funded by the Department of Environmental Management.

The objective of this program is to promote the use of source reduction techniques in manufacturing by changing processes that use hazardous wastes rather than treating those wastes at the "end of the pipe." Once again, SRPEDD organized a series of professional source reduction seminars which were held at the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to the seminars, SRPEDD published four issues of the Southeast Program newsletter, "The Recovery Room," and participated in two comprehensive source reduction audits.

Program participants made headlines during the year. The Robbins Company was recognized by both the State Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and the federal EPA for its innovative source reduction technology. Both Robbins and Taunton Silversmiths, Ltd. were featured on a Channel 7 news story in May.

PLANNING FOR THE REGION

ACCESSORY APARTMENTS

In order to meet the need for affordable housing in the region, SRPEDD developed model zoning bylaws for the creation of accessory apartments within single family homes. Funding was provided through a grant from the Massachusetts Housing Partnership and the Executive Office of Communities and Development.

The bylaws include basic language as well as optional language to tailor fit the amendment to the needs of the individual municipality.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEAN-UP

Through a grant from the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), SRPEDD operated as the fiscal, contracting and organizing agent for two regional household hazardous waste clean-up days in the region.

The two regional groups, Freetown/ Lakeville and Norton/Mansfield, serviced over 260 households. The contracted hauler, Clean Harbors, Inc., removed a total of 70 drums of waste and spent motor oil, and 700 used tires.

PLANNING WITH OTHERS

SRPEDD is not the only organization conducting areawide planning activities in southeastern Massachusetts. To insure coordination in planning for the region's future, SRPEDD provides assistance to other groups addressing planning concerns:

- Taunton River Watershed Alliance - Staff Support
- Mattapoisett River Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee - Aquifer Protection Plan
- Southeastern Massachusetts Partnership - Regional Water Study
- Bristol County Selectmen's Association - Solid Waste Planning
- Buzzards Bay Advisory Committee - Environmental Planning

TAUNTON RIVER CONSERVATION

Early this year work was started on the Taunton River Conservation Study. The goals of the study are to identify the important natural, cultural and recreational resources along the Taunton River and to prepare a plan that preserves those resources and insures public access to the river.

The study area stretches from Route 495 in Raynham to the Weir section of Taunton and includes an area on either side of the river that varies in width from 500 to 4000 feet. An advisory committee has been established, an attitude survey has been distributed, a school curriculum complementing the study has been prepared and data has been collected on land use, land ownership, historic sites and structures, wetlands and areas of conservation interest.

The study is expected to be completed late this year. The project was funded by a grant to the Town of Raynham from the Department of Environmental Management.

REGIONAL REVIEWS

SRPEDD comments on proposed developments in the region as part of the MEPA environmental review process. When reviewing development proposals, aspects such as traffic impact, water use, wastewater generation and wetlands encroachment are considered.

In the past year, SRPEDD reviewed 97 projects under the MEPA process. Twenty-two of those projects were full environmental impact reports. Projects were located in 22 different cities and towns. Types of projects ranged from single homes in environmentally sensitive areas to large shopping malls and industrial parks generating more than 20,000 vehicle trips per day.

Middleborough had the largest number of projects reviewed under the MEPA process with 12; followed by Taunton (10); Raynham (7); and Fairhaven, Fall River, New Bedford, Dartmouth, Swansea, Mansfield and Wareham with five each.

(Photo courtesy Taunton River Watershed Alliance)

Taunton River Watershed Alliance canoeists set out from Titicut Bridge launch site for a trip through the conservation study area.

COMMISSION 1988 - 1989

OFFICERS

Allan Campbell, Chairman
William Fitzgerald, Vice Chairman
Jayme Dias, Secretary
Donald Hussey, Treasurer
Emeline MacDonald, Assistant Treasurer
George Bare, Past Chairman

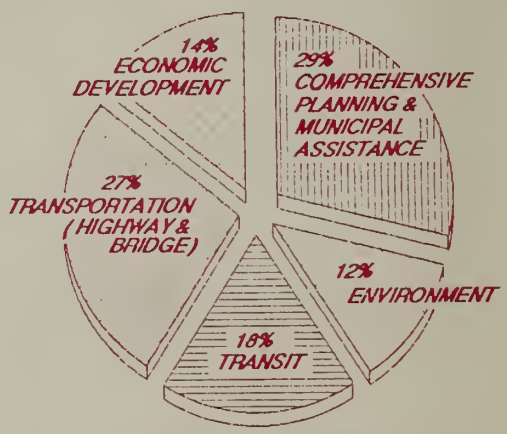
ACUSHNET
Lawrence Mulvey, Richard Ellis
ATTLEBORO
William Woloshyn, Robert Mawney
BERKLEY
John Holland
CARVER
John Mickevich
DARTMOUTH
Lorri-Ann Miller, Dr. Basil Castaldi
DIGHTON
Allan Campbell, Manuel Ferreira
FAIRHAVEN
Nicholas Tangney, Raymond Fleurent
FALL RIVER
Dan DeCarlo, Robert Alves
FREETOWN
Charles Boynton
LAKEVILLE
Luke Leonard, Jr.
MANSFIELD
Kelli Baker, Michael McClanahan
MARION
Loretta Schaefer, Franklin Winters
MATTAPOISETT
Robert Black, Barry Denham
MIDDLEBOROUGH
Lawrence Carver, Joseph Freitas
NEW BEDFORD
Alfred Lima
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
Krista Paynton, Patricia Redding
NORTON
Alan Fracalosi, John Tyler
PLAINVILLE
Andrea Soucy
PLYMPTON
Lee Johnson, William Slater
RAYNHAM
Emeline MacDonald, Henry Ellis
REHOBOTH
Suzanne DiPietro, Donna McCombs
ROCHESTER
George Bare
SEEKONK
Charles Terzian, Robert Lombardi
SOMERSET
Donald Hussey, Raymond McConnell
SWANSEA
Charles Baldwin
TAUNTON
William Fitzgerald, John Viveiros
WAREHAM
Gus Yankopoulos, Nancy Haley
WESTPORT
Sally Adams, Edmund Medeiros
FALL RIVER AREA
Tom Alecrim
NEW BEDFORD AREA
Jayme Dias
TAUNTON AREA
Jose Torres

BUDGET

In fiscal year 1989, SRPEDD had a budget of $854,564. Federal grants, including funds passed through state agencies, represented 49 percent of total income. Local contracts, assessments, and in-kind services equalled 38 percent, while the contribution from state sources was 13 percent.

During the fiscal year, the agency had 36 separate contracts, ranging from $400 to $212,000.

Approximately 70 percent of SRPEDD's expenditures was for salaries, 8 percent for consultants and in-kind services, and 22 percent for overhead and direct expenses.



PROGRAM SPENDING

STAFF 1988 - 1989

SRPEDD STAFF: Standing Left to Right: Anita Sabourin, Craig Bloom, Greg Guimond, Charlie Repeta, Jim Hadfield, Roland Hebert, John Pobst, Paul Mission, Steve Smith, Tom Pisaturo, Bill Tirrell; Seated, Center Row, Left to Right: Joanne Bouchard, Michele Stone, Shirley Louro, Nancy Bumbaugh, Sue Sherman, Maria Gooch, Anne Dufresne; Seated Foreground: Cathy Goulart, Nelia Sousa, Diane Crowne, Rachel Tedesco.

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director
Albert Barbour, PE, Senior Engineer
Craig Bloom, Freetown/Lakeville Planner
Joanne Bouchard, SEED Administrative Asst.
Nancy Bumbaugh, Senior Secretary
Shaun Burke, Rehoboth/Swansea Planner*
Diane Crowne, Transit Planner
Ann Dufresne, Secretary
Cheryl Field, Junior Accountant*
Maria Gooch, Dir. of Economic Development
Cathleen Goulart, Maintenance Aide
Gregory Guimond, Prin. Comprehensive Planner
James Hadfield, Prin. Transportation Planner
Roland Hebert, Director of Highway Planning
Shirley Louro, Business Manager
Paul Mission, Sr. Transportation Planner
William Napolitano, Sr. Environmental Planner
Thomas Pisaturo, Comp. Planning Manager
John Pobst, Dir. of Transit Planning
Charles Repeta, Jr., Trans. Planning Manager
Anita Sabourin, Graphics Specialist
Susan Sherman, Head of Graphics
Nelia Sousa, Junior Accountant
Michele Stone, Dir. of Administration
Rachel Tedesco, Prin. Comprehensive Planner
Wilbur Tirrell, Legal Specialist
Zak S.R. Tucker, Rehoboth/Swansea Planner
*Resigned

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

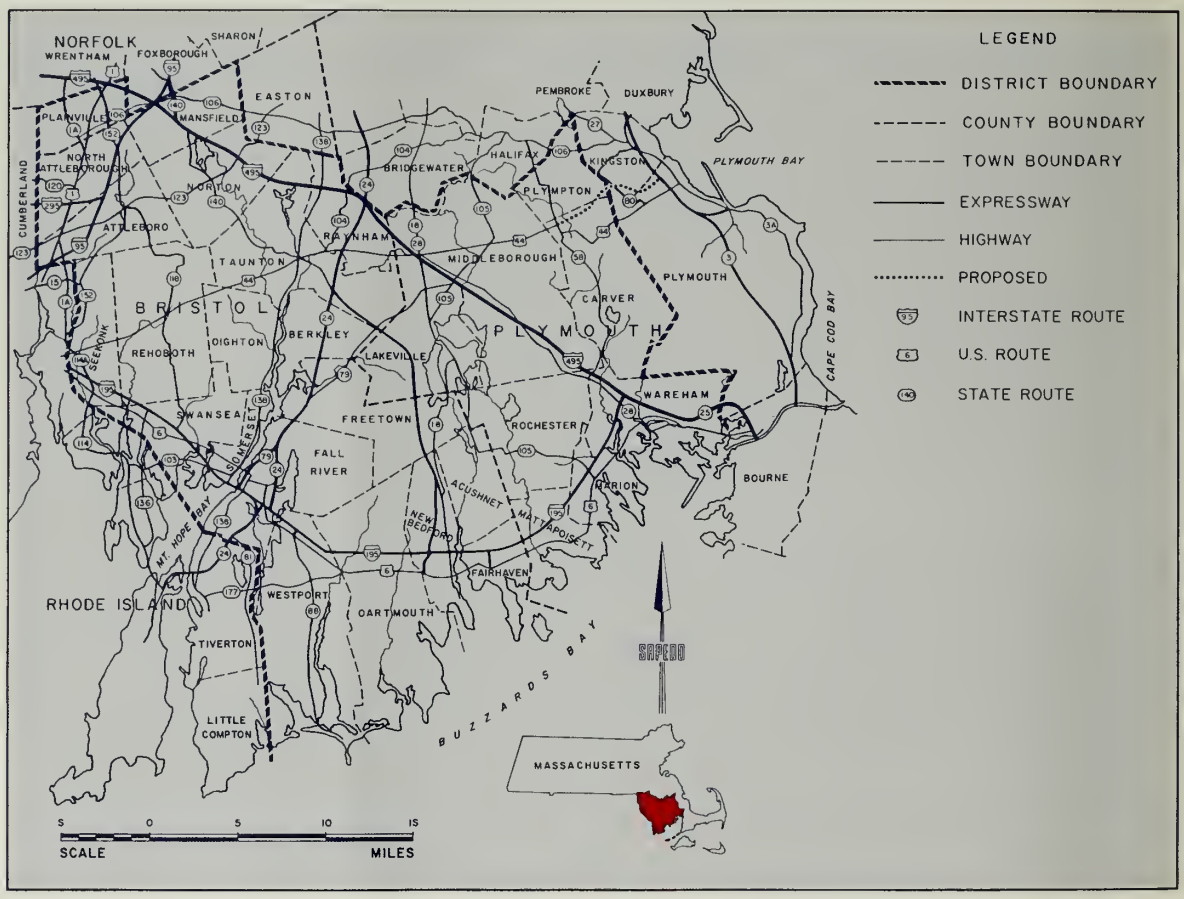
SRPEDD Annual Report 1988

MASS.
Y3.
SR1/1:
988

20 YEARS SERVING THE REGION

Contents

Twenty Years of Service 1
Economic Development 2
Planning for the Region 3
Assistance to Communities 4
Transportation 6
Budget and Commission 8
Staff 9



1988 SRPEDD Regional Transportation Map

Credits

Maria Gooch, Editing
Susan Sherman, Lay-out and Photographs
Anita Sabourin, Cover Design and Photographs
Joanne Bouchard, Typing
Nancy Bumbaugh, Typing
Anne Dufresne, Typing

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District
88 Broadway, Taunton, Massachusetts (508) 824-1367

Twenty Years of Service

Allan L. Campbell, Chairman

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director

It has been twenty years since Governor John Volpe signed legislation on July 18, 1968 creating the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District, or SRPEDD as we have come to be known.

Now in 1988 it is appropriate to ask what has SRPEDD accomplished? Has it been worth it? How can we improve over the next twenty years?

Certainly the twenty years has been a challenging period. We have seen dramatic changes in southeastern Massachusetts. Our population rose by over 80,000 people, or an increase of 17 percent. Our unemployment fluctuated dramatically, exceeding 10 percent twice during the twenty year period.

The environmental movement was born, accompanied by a great deal of legislation and regulation. Federal funding for regional planning hit an all time high in the 70's followed by dramatic cuts in the 80's. Cities and towns faced the fiscal constraints of Proposition 2½, and planning was often a victim of those constraints.

SRPEDD has evolved over twenty years as well. We have changed from an agency stressing federal initiatives in response to federal grants to an agency more responsive and directed to local needs and priorities.

SRPEDD has provided cities and towns throughout the region with a professional resource that has the technical capability to address most local problems. Our planners, data analysts, engineers, lawyers and draftsmen have provided a wide range of technical assistance in a cost effective and timely manner.

SRPEDD has prepared numerous master plans, traffic studies, zoning ordinances and open space plans for cities and towns. We have been the region's resource for demographic, economic and natural resource information that is vital to local planning.

SRPEDD has been a catalyst in addressing regional issues. We have been an advocate for regional projects, such as I-495 completion. We have set funding priorities for economic development and transportation projects.

We have worked for the protection of regional natural resources. And we have been a leader in regional economic development through the creation and development of SEED Corporation.

We have been innovative in addressing issues of greatest concern in the region. New approaches to old problems have included: creation of two shared planner positions in Freetown and Lakeville, and Rehoboth and Swansea; initiation of source reduction as a cheaper and better method to reduce pollution in the Jewelers and Platers Project; development of a regional small business incubator sponsored by SEED Corporation; preparation of a computerized build-out analysis to determine the impact of future growth; sponsorship of several household hazardous waste pickups; and creation of energy from trash in the Fall River Incinerator Retrofit Project.

We believe that SRPEDD has been effective; but we have much more to do. There are still many issues that should be addressed on a regional level, such as solid waste, water supply, groundwater protection, affordable housing, economic development, highway planning, and many, many more. SRPEDD intends to be there.

Economic Development

For the past twenty years, SRPEDD has been planning with communities for the economic development of southeastern Massachusetts. With funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, SRPEDD has developed priorities for funding of economic development projects in this region.

EDA's Public Works Program has played a major role in the industrial diversification and revitalization of this region. The program has been responsible for creating five industrial parks in communities which would have been hard pressed to make such investments alone — Fall River, New Bedford, Wareham, North Attleborough and Taunton.

These parks have leveraged millions of dollars in private investment and created over 5,000 new jobs. The Taunton Myles Standish Industrial Park, which received the most recent EDA funding, has been a major catalyst for new industrial development in this region.

Overall Economic Development Program

With the assistance of the Economic Development Committee, SRPEDD prepared an update to the Overall Economic Development Program for the region. The report includes an analysis of the region's economy and outlines an agenda for future development. It looks at the past and plans for the future.

The OEDP makes communities eligible for EDA funding. The five industrial parks in this region have all been ranked in the OEDP and have all received EDA funding.

Technical Assistance and Information

SRPEDD published the fourth edition of the "Southeastern Massachusetts Fact Book: Data Summary and Developer's Guide." The publication continued to be a popular source of information for developers and others doing research on southeastern Massachusetts.

Under a special contract with the City of New Bedford, SRPEDD provided consulting services to the Office of Economic Development. SRPEDD assisted the city with the preparation of a Public Works Economic Development Grant application. In addition, SRPEDD provided financial assistance and advice to New Bedford businesses.

SEED

SRPEDD continued to provide staff assistance to the South Eastern Economic Development Corporation which provides low interest financing to small businesses in southeastern Massachusetts.

So far SEED has approved 20 loans to small businesses under the 502, 503 and 504 Programs sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The small business projects total approximately $12 million and will create 354 new jobs.

Under SEED's own one million dollar Revolving Loan Fund Program, 23 small business loans have been approved. Their projects total approximately $9 million and are expected to create an additional 255 jobs.

Economic Development Committee at work.

Planning For the Region

For the past twenty years, SRPEDD has been conducting regional planning for southeastern Massachusetts. In its planning, SRPEDD has taken a regional perspective and considered the needs and concerns of the region's residents.

During the past year SRPEDD was involved in a number of regional planning projects as outlined below.

Mattapoisett River Watershed Study

SRPEDD completed a water resources and aquifer protection plan for the Mattapoisett River Watershed funded by the Executive Office of Communities and Development. The watershed is a 24 square mile area covering parts of five towns. At the present time, Fairhaven, Marion and Mattapoisett withdraw 2.7 million gallons of groundwater per day from the watershed.

A computer model was used to project future development in the watershed and its potential impact on groundwater quality and quantity.

The plan, which will be implemented by the five towns and the Mattapoisett River Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee, recommends zoning and regulatory changes, acquisition of critical land parcels, and establishment of a regional septage management program.

Build-Out Analysis

This year under the regional planning grant funded by the Executive Office of Communities and Development, SRPEDD completed a sub-regional build-out analysis for Attleboro, Mansfield, North Attleborough, Norton and Plainville. The purpose of the report was to assist each of the local communities to visualize potential future residential, commercial and industrial growth and its corresponding impacts on road network, open space, schools, and water and sewer usage.

SRPEDD identified the development capabilities of all vacant parcels and large lots which could be further subdivided. This information along with historical data was placed in a computer land use package which enables the community to test the effects of land management actions such as zoning on growth.

Source Reduction Project

SRPEDD successfully completed a third year of involvement with the Southeast Jewelers and Platers Source Reduction Project. Once again, the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce acted as host for all project activities. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management funded the project.

Over 20 jewelers, platers and metal finishers have taken part in SRPEDD's source reduction inventory program. The inventory is designed to assess how industry practices can be improved to conserve resources, cut costs and reduce hazardous wastes.

In addition SRPEDD offered a series of six technical assistance workshops and developed a newsletter. Some 45 businesses took part in the workshops. In January, SRPEDD received a $1,500 gift from the Robbins Company to help fund the cost of the workshops and newsletter.

Buzzards Bay Project

SRPEDD continued to participate in the Buzzards Bay Project, which is sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency. The project brings together various levels of government to address the clean-up of Buzzards Bay.

This year SRPEDD co-sponsored two highly successful workshops on local by-laws and regulations. Over one hundred local officials and citizens were in attendance to discuss how their subdivision regulations, earth removal by-laws, zoning ordinances and other local development controls could impact on water quality.

Assistance to Communities

Providing assistance to its member communities has been SRPEDD's top priority for the past twenty years. By its nature, SRPEDD can provide many technical services, such as demographic analyses or engineering reviews, in a cost effective manner.

During the past year SRPEDD was involved in a number of activities as outlined below and in the Municipal Assistance Projects list.

Lakeville Growth Management Study

SPREDD started work on a growth impact study for the Town of Lakeville that will examine the impacts of four major non-residential developments, including the Ocean Spray corporate headquarters.

To date, SRPEDD has developed a detailed description of each of the four developments and has conducted an analysis of the impacts of the developments on population growth, secondary employment, land use, housing affordability and town finances. The ultimate objective of the study is to recommend measures that Lakeville can adopt to manage growth and development.

North Attleborough Master Plan

Work on the update of the North Attleborough Master Plan continued. SRPEDD prepared an analysis of the development potential of vacant land and an inventory of natural resources. The inventory examined development limitations related to topography, soils, wetlands and water resources.

Finally, a traffic circulation plan was prepared. The plan examined existing conditions, in terms of traffic volume and accident statistics, and projected the impact of future development on the highway network. Recommendations for road improvements were also presented.

Plympton Open Space Plan

Like many rural towns, Plympton has experienced an increase in development activity. To reserve its rural character and historic land marks, Plympton formed an open space committee and hired SRPEDD to assist with the preparation of an open space plan. The objective of the committee was to develop a plan which satisfied the requirements of the Division of Conservation Services and the Bay Circuit Program.

Freetown and Lakeville Shared Planner

The shared planner continued to provide valuable planning services to Freetown and Lakeville. In Freetown, the planner has been involved in efforts to preserve the town's historic character and study the need for affordable housing. The revision of land use controls has been an ongoing effort.

In Lakeville, work has continued on the master plan update with the help of the town's Growth Study Committee. The planner also represented both towns at Blueprint 2000 hearings and has helped coordinate joint Freetown and Lakeville hazardous waste collection efforts.

Rehoboth and Swansea Shared Planner

A shared planner for Rehoboth and Swansea was hired last year. In Rehoboth, the planner worked on several changes to the subdivision regulations and an application to the Massachusetts Council on Arts and Humanities for a town center design study.

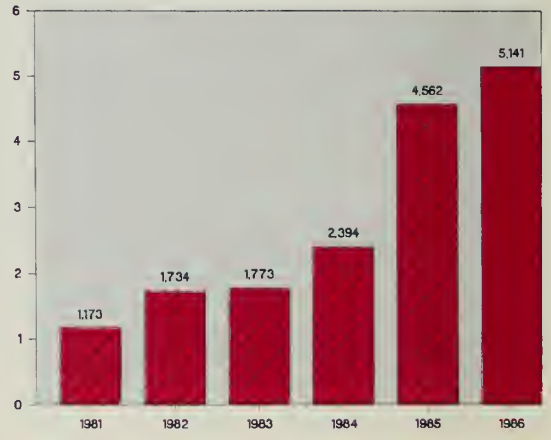
In Swansea, the planner worked on changes to the subdivision regulations and a revision to the zoning bylaw.

The planner also researched and reviewed Swansea's first comprehensive permit application.

Growth in the Region

SRPEDD compiled building permit information which shows the growth that has occurred in the region.

HOUSING UNITS AUTHORIZED



School Enrollment Projections

SRPEDD updated school enrollment projections for the towns of Marion and Mattapoisett. The updated projections relied on new data on births, actual school enrollment and residential building permits.

Subdivisions Reviews

SRPEDD continued its contract with Plainville to review subdivision applications. This past year applications for eight subdivisions were reviewed.

SRPEDD also entered into a contract with the City of Taunton to review site plans for subdivisions and other development projects. To date, SRPEDD has commented on eight development applications.

Planning Services

Various planning services provided to municipalities by SRPEDD include: preparing grant applications, such as an incentive aid application for training local officials on soil erosion and sedimentation control practices, and applications for household hazardous waste pick-up days for several communities; tracking growth trends in southeastern Massachusetts. Under special contracts, SRPEDD also provides technical assistance to the towns of Fairhaven, Freetown, Lakeville, Plainville, Rehoboth, Swansea and Taunton.

During the past year SRPEDD provided graphics services to several municipalities. This work included preparing a series of maps for Mansfield; a zoning change map for Middleborough; and zoning map revisions for Plainville.

Municipal Assistance Projects 1987 - 1988

COMMUNITY	PROJECT
Attleboro	Soil Erosion Workshops
Dartmouth	Traffic Counts
Fairhaven	Professional and Technical Services
Freetown	Shared Planner; Assistance on Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up
Lakeville	Shared Planner; Growth Management Study; Assistance on Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up
Mansfield	Community Profile and Mapping
Marion	School Enrollment Projections
Mattapoisett	School Enrollment Projections
Middleborough	Strategic Planning Grant Application; General Use District Work Plan and Study; Rock Village Zoning Article; and Map
New Bedford	Technical Assistance to the Office of Economic Development
North Attleborough	Master Plan Update; Self Help Grant Assistance
Norton	Traffic Analysis Assistance on Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up
Plainville	Technical Assistance to the Planning Board
Raynham	Technical Assistance on Retention Ponds
Rehoboth	Scheduled Development Bylaw
Rochester	Information on Subdivision Regulations; Population Projections
Seekonk	Technical Assistance on Open Space Plan
Somerset	Zoning Bylaw Revision; Bylaw Recodification
Swansea	Subdivision Review
Taunton	Technical Assistance on Development Reviews
Wareham	Subdivision Review
Westport	Bylaw Recodification; Route 6 Impact Analysis

Transportation

For the past 20 years SRPEDD has planned for the transportation network of southeastern Massachusetts — 3,200 miles of roads; 100 miles of rail lines; four municipal airports; two major seaports; and two public transit systems that carry six million passengers per year.

This planning has been extremely important to the growth and development of the region. Last year SRPEDD continued to plan for the replacement of the Brightman Street Bridge and worked on other projects throughout the region.

SRPEDD also prepared documents required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works such as: the Transportation Improvement Program and Unified Work Program. These documents were approved by the Joint Transportation Planning Group and endorsed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Brightman Street Bridge

During 1987, SRPEDD continued to work on the Engineering Study and the Environmental Assessment for the proposed replacement of the Brightman Street Bridge, as a consultant to the Massachusetts Department of Public Works.

The Engineering Study, which is being reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration, proposes replacing the existing bridge with a new, four lane moveable span bridge.

The height of the bridge is proposed to be 60 feet over the center of the river channel. With this new height, the bridge is expected to have to open to shipping only 190 to 230 times per year instead of 1,500 times as it did in 1987. The width of the bridge opening will be increased from 98 feet to 150 feet, thereby reducing the number of collisions with the bridge's fender system.

Once the Engineering Study and the Environmental Assessment are approved by the federal and state governments, the project will go into final design and construction.

Highway Planning

Last year SRPEDD worked on several highway planning projects as outlined below.

Fall River Traffic Study — SRPEDD completed a major traffic study for the Route 6 and Elsbree Street area of Fall River. Focusing on school related traffic problems, SRPEDD determined that a new ramp to Route 24 would not be needed to resolve traffic congestion at the intersection on Route 6.

The study recommended widening Route 6 from Moore Street to the rotary including a center island and new traffic signal for the middle driveway servicing President Avenue plaza.

Taunton, Owen Riverway — SRPEDD completed a study of the traffic on County Street in Taunton at the request of the mayor and the city council. The study recommended extending the existing Owen Riverway to a direct connection with County Street, Route 140.

The study examined the road network comprising the area of County and Williams streets and the Owen Riverway; and found that the intersection of County and Williams streets presents problems because of conflicting left turns and inadequate gaps in through traffic flow.

Seekonk, Arcade Avenue — SRPEDD completed a study of the traffic on Arcade Avenue between Taunton and Newman avenues.

SRPEDD considered traffic volume, speed, truck traffic, and safety, and examined the need for signalization, road widening and speed limit modification and enforcement.

The study found Arcade Avenue to be operating efficiently. The intersection of Arcade Avenue at Newman Avenue, however, was found to be operating poorly during the peak period.

SRPEDD recommended that the intersection be signalized and that the northbound leg of the intersection be widened to accommodate two approach lanes.

Brightman Street Bridge

Plympton Industrial Access Study — SRPEDD analyzed access to a proposed industrial park in Plympton, recommended separating the park entrance and the Route 44 exit ramp by several hundred feet to allow for safe and efficient vehicular flows.

SRPEDD also voiced concern over access to a bisected area of the industrial park. This land might never be accessible unless Carver makes zoning changes to allow for an access road or the state allows access to the property through a frontage road near Route 44.

Accident Data — SRPEDD has established a computer based Accident Filing System which maintains accident data for participating towns. The system is funded through SRPEDD's contract with the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. The only cost to the municipality is supplying the raw data through its police department.

Towns participating in the system include Acushnet, Berkley, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Mansfield, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Norton, Rehoboth, Rochester and Seekonk.

Mapping — SPREDD continued to update city and town street maps produced and maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works, The map updating consists of adding new streets and roads, making corrections and producing an inventory printout for all streets. Maps for 27 of the 28 SRPEDD communities have been completed.

Transit Planning

Last year SRPEDD continued to provide transit planning assistance to the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA), and the Greater Attleboro — Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA). SRPEDD assisted in upgrading dial-a-ride systems to meet the needs of the elderly and handicapped. SRPEDD also assisted in planning for the GATRA maintenance garage constructed in Taunton.

SRTA

Services provided to SRTA included:

- Prepared an employment center atlas for the SRTA bus service area.
- Developed a computer model to estimate the use of fares versus passes.
- Analyzed trolley use in the SRTA system.
- Analyzed fares and ridership in the service area.
- Conducted traffic counts at employment centers such as Flint Village in Fall River.

GATRA

Service provided to GATRA included:

- Conducted a survey of current riders on Route 44.
- Assembled a wall map depicting fixed routes and major destinations such as medical facilities and shopping centers.
- Conducted a telephone survey of employers at the Myles Standish Industrial Park.
- Prepared a report on elderly and handicapped dial-a-ride services.
- Assisted in preparing the GATRA 10th anniversary bus service brochure.
- Analyzed parking lot usage in Mansfield and Attleboro by Rhode Island drivers.
- Published a list of social service agencies in the service area.

Federal Aid Highway Projects

Complete

Route 25 Extension, Wareham - Bourne	$18,100,000
South Main Street Bridge Replacement (Rt.79), Freetown	788,400
Route 44, New Street Signals, Rehoboth	86,400
Route 44 Bridge Deck, Middleborough	800,000
Route 6 at Gardners Neck, Road Reconstruction, Swansea	565,000

Underway

Oak Hill Avenue Reconstruction, Seekonk	$1,200,000
Interstate 495 Bridge Decks over Rt. 105, Middleborough	2,300,000
Lindsey Street Bridge Replacement, Attleboro	2,390,000
Church Street Bridge Replacement, Raynham	997,000
Braga Bridge Deck Replacement, Fall River/Somerset	36,200,000

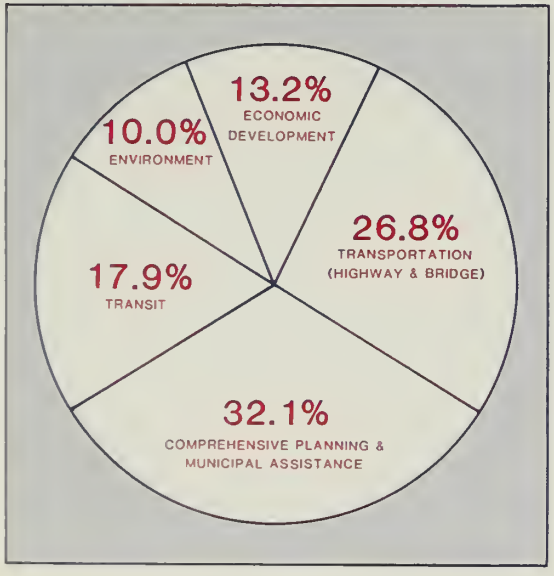
Budget

In fiscal year 1987, SRPEDD had a budget of $838,597. Federal grants, some passed through state agencies, represented 49 percent of the total income.

Local contracts, assessments, and in-kind services amounted to 35 percent, while state funds equalled 16 percent. The agency had 30 separate contracts.

Approximately 71 percent of SRPEDD's budget paid for salaries, 22 percent for overhead and direct expenditures, and 7 percent for consultants and in-kind services.

Program Spending



Commission 1987-1988

ACUSHNET
Lawrence Mulvey, Richard Ellis

ATTLEBORO
John Lepper, Robert Mawney

BERKLEY
John Holland, Byron Holmes

CARVER
John H. Michevich

DARTMOUTH
Lorri-Ann Miller, Dr. Basil Castaldi

DIGHTON
Allan Campbell, Manuel Ferreira

FAIRHAVEN
Nicholas Tangney, Raymond Fleurent

FALL RIVER
Alfred Edwards

FREETOWN
Cynthia Cardin

LAKEVILLE
Luke Leonard, Jr.

MANSFIELD
Kenneth Blaisdell, Linda Sohn

MARION
Richard Lagreze, Franklin Winters

MATTAPOISETT
Peter Kortright, William Matthews

MIDDLEBOROUGH
Lawrence Carver, Joseph Freitas, Jr.

NEW BEDFORD
David Bourgeois

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
Krista Paynton, Patricia Redding

NORTON
Alan Fracalosi, Ronald Lima

PLAINVILLE
Andrea Soucy, Richard Stenfeldt

PLYMPTON
Lee Johnson, Roberta Jewett

RAYNHAM
Emeline MacDonald, Glenn Miller

REHOBOTH
Suzanne DiPietro, Robert Arabian

ROCHESTER
George Bare, Roger Pelletier

SEEKONK
Stephen Peck, Charles Terzian

SOMERSET
Donald Hussey

SWANSEA
Michael Finglas, Richard Burgess

TAUNTON
William Fitzgerald, John Viveiros

WAREHAM
Constantine (Gus) Yankopoulos, Nancy Haley

WESTPORT
Louise Renoir, Edmund Medeiros

FALL RIVER AREA
Bernard Skelly, Jr.

NEW BEDFORD AREA
Jayme Dias

TAUNTON AREA
Jose Torres

OFFICERS
Allan L. Campbell, Chairman
Luke Leonard, Jr., Vice Chairman
Lawrence E. Carver, Secretary
Donald Hussey, Treasurer
Patricia Redding, Assistant Treasurer
George G. Bare, Past Chairman

Staff 1987-1988

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director
Albert Barbour, PE, Senior Engineer
Craig Bloom, Freetown/Lakeville Planner
Joanne Bouchard, SEED Administrative Asst.
Louise Brouillard, Student Intern
Nancy Bumbaugh, Senior Secretary
Shaun Burke, Rehoboth/Swansea Planner
Diane Crowne, Transit Planner
Christopher Curry, Comprehensive Planner
Anne Dufresne, Secretary
Cheryl Field, Junior Accountant
Maria Gooch, Dir. of Economic Development
Catherine Goulart, Maintenance Aide
Gregory Guimond, Sr. Comprehensive Planner
James Hadfield, Prin. Transportation Planner
Roland Hebert, Director of Highway Planning
Karl Hergenrother, Student Intern
Shirley Louro, Business Manager
James Medeiros, Maintenance Aide
Paul Mission, Sr. Transportation Planner
William Napolitano, Sr. Environmental Planner
Thomas Pisaturo, Comp. Planning Manager
John Pobst, Dir. of Transit Planning
James Reilly, Drafting Intern
Charles Repeta, Jr., Trans. Planning Manager
Anita Sabourin, Graphics Specialist
Susan Sherman, Head of Graphics
Paula Souza, Office Aide
Michele Stone, Dir. of Administration
Yvette Swain, Student Intern
Rachel Tedesco, Prin. Comprehensive Planner
Wilbur Tirrell, Legal Specialist

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

88 BROADWAY TAUNTON MASSACHUSETTS 02780

MASS.
Y3.
SR1/1:
986/87

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
NOV 25 1991
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

1986-1987 ANNUAL REPORT

MBTA

Contents

Coping with Growth 1
Economic Development 2
Energy and Environment 3
Assistance to Communities 4
Transportation 6
Budget and Commission 8
Staff 9

Credits

Maria Gooch, *editing*
Susan Sherman, *lay-out and photographs*
Anita Sabourin, *cover design and photographs*
Nancy Bumbaugh, *typing*

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District
88 Broadway, Taunton, Massachusetts 02780 (617) 824-1367

Coping With Success

George G. Bare, Chairman

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director

Southeastern Massachusetts is laboring under the good news-bad news syndrome.

The good news is that we are doing better economically than we have in decades. Unemployment is down, development and tax revenues are up, and new companies are moving into the region. In general, southeastern Massachusetts is "hot."

But, as every planner knows, success breeds its own bad news. Traffic congestion is increasing; housing costs are beyond the reach of the average resident; utilities are overtaxed; and growth pressures threaten our natural resources.

This dichotomy is what planning — and especially regional planning — is all about. And unfortunately, the need for planning becomes obvious to most people only after it's too late.

We at SRPEDD like to believe that our efforts over the years have played a part in the region's current success. We participated in the development of the industrial parks that are now brimming with new companies. We spearheaded the effort to get the highway built that now brings much of our success. And we participated in the overall team effort to upgrade the image of southeastern Massachusetts as a place of great potential and opportunity.

As you read this report, you will see that a great deal of our effort has now turned to coping with that success. Under our municipal assistance program, we have helped cities and towns by evaluating development impacts and writing local by-laws to regulate development. A grant from a state agency allowed us to examine the process by which large developments make their way through the permit process. Two other grants have enabled us to set up shared planner positions in four towns which previously had no professional capacity. Traffic problems generated by new development have occupied much of our transportation planning effort. We continue to plan for the future, but we are constantly overwhelmed by short term planning crises.

It is SRPEDD's job to see that development is balanced — that the need for adequate transportation, affordable housing and a quality environment is addressed. We have worked hard at meeting that need and we accept the challenge to continue doing so into the future.

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Bare

Stephen C. Smith

Economic Development

Small Business Incubator

During the past year, SRPEDD continued to develop an "incubator" to house small start-up businesses in southeastern Massachusetts. The incubator building will be a new 39,000 square foot building to be constructed in the Fall River Airport Industrial Park. The building will provide flexible and efficient space for approximately 30 small manufacturing businesses.

In addition to providing flexible space for young growing businesses, anywhere from 300 to 3,000 square feet, the incubator will provide the support system which will help new businesses to survive and grow. The incubator will have a central area of approximately 5,000 square feet consisting of reception area, conference room, lunch room, administrative office, warehouse and meeting rooms which incubator tenants can share.

The regional incubator is being developed with financial participation from different organizations at the federal, state and local levels. The project was initially funded through a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration for $900,000, a $100,000 donation from the City of Fall River and a donation of five acres and $100,000 from the Greater Fall River Development Corporation. SEED Corporation added $15,000 in cash and SRPEDD contributed staff time to prepare grant applications and develop the project. The Massachusetts Government Land Bank also approved a loan for $500,000 bringing the total project capital budget to $1.828 million.

Development of the project has been spearheaded by the Incubator Steering Committee, a public-private partnership representative of government, manpower training, finance, business and community groups.

Overall Economic Development Program

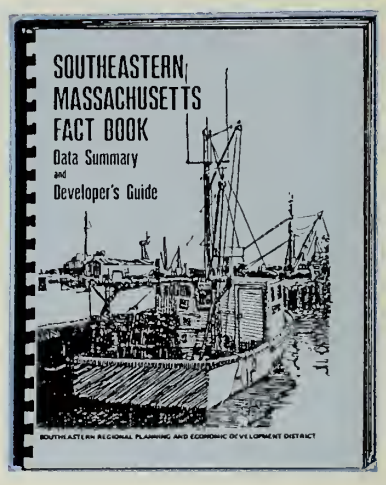
With the assistance of the Economic Development Committee, SRPEDD prepared an update to the Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) for the region. The report includes an analysis of the region's economy and outlines an agenda for future development. It looks at the past and plans for the future.

The OEDP makes communities eligible for EDA funding. The incubator, for example, was ranked in the OEDP as the number one project in the region for 1985. The five industrial parks in this region have all been ranked in the OEDP and have all received EDA funding.

Technical Assistance and Information

SRPEDD published the third edition of the "Southeastern Massachusetts Fact Book: Data Summary and Developer's Guide." The publication continued to be a popular source of information to developers and others doing research on southeastern Massachusetts.

Under a special contract with the City of New Bedford SRPEDD provided consulting services to the Office of Economic Development. SRPEDD assisted the city with the preparation of an Urban Development Action Grant application, a Revolving Loan Fund application and two Public Works Economic Development Grant applications. In addition, SRPEDD provided financial assistance and advice to New Bedford businesses.



SEED

SRPEDD continued to provide staff assistance to the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation which provides low interest financing to small businesses in southeastern Massachusetts.

So far SEED has approved 33 loans to small businesses under the 502, 503 and 504 Programs sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The small business projects total approximately $27 million and will create 850 new jobs.

Under SEED's own one million dollar Revolving Loan Fund Program, 19 small business loans have been approved. Their projects total approximately $6 million and are expected to create an additional 230 jobs.

SRPEDD also provided SEED with the staff assistance necessary to develop the small business incubator project.

Energy and Environment

Operation Clean Sweep '86

Under the auspices of Operation Clean Sweep '86, SRPEDD operated as the fiscal and contracting agent for four regional household hazardous waste collection days in the region.

Operation Clean Sweep participants included: Plainville, Wrentham, Norfolk, New Bedford, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, Taunton and Raynham. Within the nine communities, a combined 390 households were served. Some 95 barrels of household hazardous waste were collected and two high schools were purged of spent chemical and related waste products.

Buzzards Bay Project

SRPEDD is participating in the Buzzard's Bay Study sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency. Last year SRPEDD developed a series of reports and workshops. The goal of the project is to identify water quality problems and to improve water quality in the Bay.

The first in the series of SRPEDD publications is the "Inventory of Local Regulations Pertaining to Water Quality." The inventory describes local authority to regulate water quality and shows the variations among local regulations for the sixteen communities in the drainage basin.

The second report, "Assessment of Past Implementation of Local Water Quality Recommendations," examines previous water quality management efforts and identifies implementation problems and opportunities. The third report, contains model by-laws, regulations and management approaches most likely to be adopted and enforced by local officials. SRPEDD also produced a manual of funding sources to aid municipalities in the implementation of model by-laws.

In addition SRPEDD held two workshops to stimulate discussion of water quality problems and the authority of local boards to control these problems.

Source Reduction Project

Last year, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, the Department of Commerce and Development and the Attleboro Chamber of Commerce, SRPEDD conducted the first phase of the Southeastern Jewelers' and Platers' Source Reduction Project.

With the assistance of graduate interns from Boston University and Tufts University, SRPEDD conducted a series of seven technical and policy seminars for jewelers, metal finishers, refiners and platers. SRPEDD also prepared a source reduction inventory designed to assess how industry practices can be improved to reduce hazardous waste volumes in over 30 shops of varying size. Over 50 of the 116 businesses contacted participated in these programs.

Coastal Zone Management

Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management, in conjunction with SRPEDD and the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies, opened a southeast regional office last July. Located in North Dartmouth, the new field office serves the coastal communities of Buzzards Bay and Mount Hope Bay. Susan Moor, a SRPEDD environmental planner, staffs the part-time office, providing a link among local decision-makers, concerned citizens, SRPEDD, CZM, and other state and federal agencies.

The regional office has been active in assisting coastal communities with harbor management and planning problems, and in conjunction with SRPEDD, has held a Harbor Management Planning Conference for southeastern Massachusetts.

Fall River Incinerator Retrofit

SRPEDD completed a study examining the feasibility of upgrading and generating electricity from the Fall River municipal incinerator. The study was funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy Resources and performed in conjunction with the engineering firm of Camp, Dresser & McKee of Boston.

The study concluded that if the incinerator were expanded to full capacity, and modified to generate electricity, the city's waste disposal costs could be reduced dramatically and waste capacity could be created for surrounding towns.

Energy Advisor Service

Under a contract with the Executive Office of Energy Resources, SRPEDD marketed the State's Energy Advisor Service Program. The program provided assistance to manufacturing businesses spending more than $75,000 per year on process energy by analyzing their energy use and developing money-saving alternatives.

The program subsidizes the cost of a production-process energy study by a private sector engineer, Norian/Wood Associates Inc. or Energy Investments, Inc. The cost to eligible companies is $400 for up to four full days of service.

So far 22 companies have signed contracts and 19 audits have been completed. A typical company can expect to save 15 to 20 percent in the first year after making improvements recommended by an analysis.

Assistance To Communities

SRPEDD is in a unique position to assist the cities and towns of southeastern Massachusetts. By its nature, SRPEDD takes a regional perspective and considers the needs and concerns of all the region's residents. SRPEDD also serves as liaison between member communities and the state and federal governments. Finally, SRPEDD provides many services, such as demographic analyses or engineering reviews, in a cost effective manner.

During the 1987 fiscal year SRPEDD was involved in a number of activities as outlined below and in the Municipal Assistance Projects list.

Seekonk Master Plan

SRPEDD completed a major update of the Seekonk Master Plan, which was initially prepared in 1979. SRPEDD updated the plan's statistical data base and revised recommendations for residential, industrial and commercial development, natural resource protection and open space conservation. Also included in the plan is a capital improvements program listing major projects related to implementing recommendations.

Fall River Open Space Plan

An addendum to the 1983 Recreation Recovery Action Plan was prepared this year. The plan focused on open space and recreation facilities of urban areas of Fall River. The addendum will provide the city with an open space and recreation plan which will make the city eligible for state and federal open space and recreation grants.

Plympton Open Space Plan

Like many rural towns, Plympton is currently experiencing an increase in development activity. To reserve its rural character and historic land marks, Plympton has formed an open space committee and hired SRPEDD to assist with the preparation of an open space plan. The objective of the committee is to develop a plan which satisfies the requirements of the Division of Conservation Services and the Bay Circuit Program.

Middleborough Fiscal Impact Study

Under a special contract with the Town of Middleborough, SRPEDD conducted an analysis of the impact of a major industrial park on the town's finances. The analysis covered general government expenses (except education), water and sewer service, and highways. The study concluded that the project would have a net benefit to the town but would also require significant improvements to the water system and area highways.

Developments with Regional Impact

With funding from the Massachusetts Regional Planning Grant Program, SRPEDD prepared a handbook for local officials that describes the various federal and state permits that a major development must obtain. The handbook will be presented at a training session for local officials to review steps and procedures to be followed when reviewing a major regional development.

Zoning Assistance

SRPEDD provided ongoing assistance to communities on matters related to zoning and subdivision control. In addition to projects described in the municipal assistance list, SRPEDD provided legal advice on all zoning bylaw changes on request.

During the past fiscal year, for example, SRPEDD drafted special permit regulations for the Somerset Planning Board. These regulations were needed to implement zoning amendments that protect wetland areas and the Somerset Reservoir watershed.

Planning Services

Various planning services provided to municipalities by SRPEDD include: preparing grant applications, such as an incentive aid application for Rehoboth and Swansea for a shared town planner; tracking growth trends in southeastern Massachusetts; conducting special surveys on building permits and subdivision fees; and reviewing major development projects in Middleborough, Raynham and Rehoboth. Under special contracts, SRPEDD also provides technical assistance to the towns of Plainville, Fairhaven, Freetown and Lakeville.

During the past year SRPEDD provided graphics services to several municipalities. This work included the redrafting of the Mansfield base map to which new subdivision streets were added; the redrafting of the Plainville zoning map in which zoning districts were redrawn to more accurately reflect town meeting action; and the preparation of a new zoning map for Somerset in which detailed water resource areas were depicted.

Municipal Assistance Projects 1986 - 1987

Community	Project
Attleboro	Survey of Engineering Services
Dartmouth	Assistance to Recreation Committee
Fairhaven	Professional and Technical Services; Zoning Bylaw Review
Fall River	Open Space Plan Update
Freetown	Shared Planner
Lakeville	Shared Planner; Regulations for Septic Systems
Mansfield	Base Map Update
Marion	Open Space Plan Assistance
Mattapoisett	Assistance to Growth Study Committee
Middleborough	Downtown Parking Study; Small Cities Grant Application; Fiscal Impact Analysis; Subdivision Review; Condominium Performance Standards
New Bedford	Technical Assistance to the Office of Economic Development
North Attleborough	Master Plan Study Assistance; Traffic Circulation Study Assistance
Norton	Solid Waste Disposal Alternatives; Master Plan Traffic Proposals Review
Plainville	Technical Assistance to Planning Board; Zoning Map Redraft
Plympton	Open Space Plan Preparation; Finance Committee Assistance
Rehoboth	Landfill Inspections; Incentive Aid Application; Subdivision Review
Raynham	Aquifer Protection Bylaw Assistance; Subdivision Review; Survey of Subdivision Fees
Seekonk	Master Plan Update
Somerset	Planning Board Rules and Regulations
Swansea	Incentive Aid Application; Zoning Bylaw Revisions
Taunton	Attitude Survey Assistance; Williams Street Traffic Study; Subdivision Regulations Update
Westport	Open Space Plan Assistance

Transportation

Transportation planning is an important aspect to coping with growth. SRPEDD's major transportation project during the past year continued to be the replacement of the Brightman Street Bridge.

SRPEDD also continued to plan for the highway system of southeastern Massachusetts — 3,200 miles of roads; 100 miles of rail lines; four municipal airports; two major seaports; and two public transit systems that carry six million passengers per year.

SRPEDD prepared required documents such as the Transportation Improvement Program and Unified Work Program. These documents were approved by the Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) and endorsed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

Brightman Street Bridge

In March 1985 SRPEDD was awarded a contract by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works (MDPW) to conduct an Environmental Assessment and Engineering Study for replacement of the aging Brightman Street Bridge. The study is now in the final stages.

The study proposes replacing the existing bridge with a new, five-lane moveable span bridge. This planned bridge will provide 60-foot vertical clearance and 150-foot horizontal clearance and will be located north of the existing structure, which will then be torn down.

Like the current bridge, the proposed span will carry routes 6 and 138 across the river and join Route 79 in Fall River. The intersection of routes 6, 138 and 103 will be replaced by an overpass and ramp system joining routes 6 and 138 only. The new bridge will measure approximately 1,200 feet from shore to shore with the drawbridge opening located near the center of the span.

The new bridge's increased height and horizontal clearance will greatly reduce the number of openings and allow the passage of larger vessels. When combined with traffic improvements on both sides of the river, the new bridge will improve traffic flow, air quality and travel safety in the area.

The study's recommendations were developed in close cooperation with the MDPW and the Brightman Street Bridge Task Force, a group representing local citizens, businessmen and officials from Fall River and Somerset.

Highway Planning

Highway planning included a number of activities as outlined below. More detail is available in the SRPEDD Transportation Annual Report.

Plainville Road Condition Survey — SRPEDD conducted a standardized road inspection survey to develop an efficient town-wide road maintenance program for Plainville. The program included several recommendations for road improvements and stressed routine maintenance procedures, such as patching, crack filling and surface sealing, to extend the life of many roads.

Western Plainville Traffic Conditions — SRPEDD studied the road network in the portion of Plainville west of Route 1A. The study stated that future development should not negatively impact the road network and recommended warning signs for the approaches to two potentially dangerous curves on Warren and Walnut streets.

Middleborough Parking Study — SRPEDD prepared a parking study for downtown Middleborough which found that a parking shortage existed during peak shopping periods. The study recommended parking requirements in the town's zoning bylaw to address new development and the creation of a small municipal lot to accommodate approximately 30 cars.

North Attleborough Traffic Study — SRPEDD was asked by the town to study traffic concerns along Toner Boulevard, which carries almost 20,000 vehicles per day. SRPEDD identified a number of problems and made several recommendations. The

Downtown Middleborough

major recommendation in the study is the construction of a third leaf to the interchange of Interstate 95 with Toner Boulevard.

Accident Filing System — Under this system police personnel transcribe individual accident reports onto master coding sheets which SRPEDD enters into the computer file. Data as specific as all accidents occuring at a particular location, on Mondays, on rainy days at 8:00 P.M. can be retrieved. Towns presently participating in the system include Freetown, Mansfield, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Norton, Rehoboth, Rochester and Seekonk.

Improving Traffic Signals — SRPEDD received a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Works for staff training and equipment to analyze traffic congestion problems at signalized intersections. SRPEDD now offers municipalities free computer analysis of traffic signal operations.

Mapping — SRPEDD continued to update city and town street maps produced and maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. The map updating consists of adding new streets and roads, making corrections and producing an inventory printout for all streets. Maps for 20 of the 28 SRPEDD communities have been completed.

Transit Planning

During the past year SRPEDD continued to provide transit planning assistance to the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA), and the Greater Attleboro—Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA). In its planning process SRPEDD gave special consideration to the needs of the elderly and the handicapped. In addition, SRPEDD participated in meetings of the Advisory Committee to the Governor's Commission on Accessible Transportation.

SRTA

Services provided to SRTA included:

- Conducted an on-board marketing survey on SRTA's summer "trolley" service in New Bedford and Fall River.
- Conducted two mail-out surveys of employment and shift times in New Bedford and Fall River industries, summer and winter.
- Installed a fare and ridership forecasting model on SRTA's new micro computer.
- Amended the TIP to include the design of a relocated bus terminal in Fall River.

GATRA

Service provided to GATRA included:

- Provided technical assistance to form a 504 task force that will assist and advise local advisory boards in developing a new plan for accessible public transportation.
- Conducted a survey of Commuter Parking Lot Use in Mansfield and Attleboro.
- Conducted a survey of a potential new site for a relocated Mansfield Commuter Train Station.

Federal Aid Highway Projects 1986

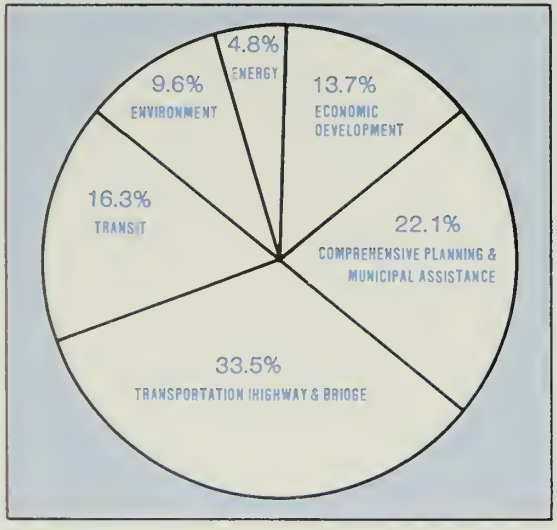
Complete	
Water Street Reconstruction and Causeway, Fall River	$1,648,500
Pleasant Street Reconstruction (Phase I), Fall River	1,100,000
Davol Street Viaduct (Rt. 138), Fall River	2,263,000
Oak Street (Rt. 118) Reconstruction, Swansea	1,026,000
Truck Inspection Site, I-95, Attleboro	382,000
Peckham Road Reconstruction, Acushnet	800,000
Underway	
South Main Street Bridge (Rt. 79), Freetown	$788,400
Route 25 Extension (Phase II), Wareham-Bourne	10,800,000
Route 25 Extension (Phase III), Wareham-Bourne	7,300,000

Budget

In fiscal year 1987, SRPEDD had a budget of $833,479. Federal grants, some passed through state agencies, represented 56 percent of the total income. Local contracts, assessments, and in-kind services amounted to 28 percent, while state funds equalled 16 percent. The agency had 32 separate contracts.

Approximately 65 percent of SRPEDD's budget paid for salaries, 25 percent for overhead and direct expenditures, six percent for consultants, and the remaining four percent is for in-kind services and miscellaneous expenditures.

Program Spending



Commission 1986 - 1987

1986-1987

ACUSHNET
Lawrence Mulvey, Gary Rawcliffe

ATTLEBORO
John Lepper, Robert Mawney

BERKLEY
John DeOliveira, S. Kenneth Woodward

CARVER
John H. Michevich

DARTMOUTH
Lori-Ann Miller, Dr. Basil Castaldi

DIGHTON
Allan Campbell, Manuel Ferreira

FAIRHAVEN
Nicholas Tangney, Raymond Fleurent

FALL RIVER
Alfred Edwards

FREETOWN
Cynthia Cardin, Richard Johnson

LAKEVILLE
Luke Leonard, Jr.

MANSFIELD
Kenneth Blaisdell, Linda Sohn

MARION
Richard Lagreze, Franklin Winters

MATTAPOISETT
Peter Kortright, William H. Matthews

MIDDLEBOROUGH
Lawrence Carver, Joseph Freitas, Jr.

NEW BEDFORD
Benjamin Baker

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
Krista Paynton, Patricia Redding

NORTON
Alan F. Fracalosi, Phil Sheridan

PLAINVILLE
Andrea Soucy, Richard Stenfeldt

PLYMPTON
Lee A. Johnson

RAYNHAM
Emeline MacDonald, Glenn Miller

REHOBOTH
Suzanne DiPietro, Robert Arabian

ROCHESTER
George G. Bare

SEEKONK
Gordon Yaghjian, Charles Terzian

SOMERSET
Donald Hussey, Frank Mattos

SWANSEA
Michael Finglas, Richard Burgess

TAUNTON
Edmund Milot, John Viveiros

WAREHAM
Constantine (Gus) Yankopoulos
Nancy Haley

WESTPORT
Louise Renoir, Edmund Medeiros

NEW BEDFORD AREA
Jayme Dias

TAUNTON AREA
Jose Torres

Officers

George G. Bare, *Chairman*
Allan L. Campbell, *Vice Chairman*
Lawrence E. Carver, *Secretary*
Donald Hussey, *Treasurer*
Patricia Redding, *Assistant Treasurer*
Emeline MacDonald, *Past Chairman*

Staff

Staff 1986-1987

Stephen C. Smith, *Executive Director*
Rebecca B. Allen, *Senior Transportation Planner*
Albert O. Barbour, *PE, Senior Engineer*
Craig Bloom, *Freetown/Lakeville Planner*
Joanne M. Bouchard,
SEED Administrative Assistant
Nancy J. Bumbaugh, *Senior Secretary*
Tracy L. Cabral, *Secretary*
Anne Dufresne, *Office Aide*
Cheryl A. Field, *Junior Accountant*
Dennis D. Gomes, *Senior Transit Planner*
Maria G. Gooch,
Director of Economic Development
Gregory J. Guimond, *Comprehensive Planner*
James C. Hadfield,
Senior Transportation Planner
Cathleen Haggerty, *Maintenance Aide*
Roland J. Hebert, *Director of Highway Planning*
Karl Hergenrother, *Student Intern*
Shirley E. Louro, *Controller*
Susan R. Moor,
Coastal Zone Regional Coordinator
Wyatt R. Moor, *Environmental Planner*
William S. Napolitano, *Environmental Planner*
Thomas A. Pisaturo,
Director of Municipal Assistance
John J. Pobst, *Director of Transit Planning*
Charles M. Repeta, Jr.,
Transportation Planning Manager
Anita E. Sabourin, *Graphics Specialist*
Susan W. Sherman, *Head of Graphics*
Thomas Simbro, *Student Intern*
Michele S. Stone, *Director of Administration*
Yvette Swain, *Student Intern*
Rachel G. Tedesco,
Principal Comprehensive Planner
Wilbur G. Tirrell, *Legal Specialist*

SRPEDD Staff

MASS.
Y3.
SR1/1:
985/86

1985-1986 ANNUAL REPORT SRPEDD

Contents

Guiding Growth 1
Assistance to Communities 2
Transportation 5
Economic Development 9
Environment and Energy 10
Budget 11
Commission and Staff 12

Credits

Maria Gooch, *editor*
Anita Sabourin, *cover design*
Susan Sherman, *photographs*
Susan Green, Nancy Bumbaugh, *typing*

Covers

The front and back covers of this report are infrared photographs taken of this region by satellite. Vegetation which normally appears green becomes red on infrared film. The areas depicted include the Fall River-Freetown State Forest (with Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth and New Bedford visible), and the Rehoboth-Seekonk-Dighton area (with Attleboro and Taunton visible). Infrared photographs are valuable planning tools for guiding growth by monitoring land use changes over time.

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District
88 Broadway, Taunton, Massachusetts 02780 (617) 824-1367

Guiding Growth

George G. Bare, Chairman

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director

Southeastern Massachusetts has been "rediscovered." The population of the region is growing. Economic development is on the upswing, and the need to address new growth is more acute than ever. But if guiding growth has suddenly become fashionable, then SRPEDD has been in fashion for many years.

Guiding growth requires master plans to set policy, local ordinances to enforce that policy and special studies to solve problems caused by growth. Guiding growth is what planning is all about, and SRPEDD has been helping cities and towns prepare for growth long before it became a hot issue.

For example, in the past ten years, we have prepared master plans for twelve cities and towns, open space plans for eleven, water supply protection ordinances for eleven, traffic or parking studies for eighteen, and zoning revisions for over twenty of our twenty-eight cities and towns. SRPEDD has also done industrial site surveys, subdivision regulations, economic development plans, and other specialized planning assistance.

In the past twelve months, we have continued our assistance in guiding growth. We undertook the environmental assessment and preliminary engineering to replace the Brightman Street Bridge between Somerset and Fall River. We have worked with SEED Corporation to establish a regional small business incubator. We prepared master plan updates in Middleborough, Somerset and Seekonk.

We also prepared for our own future. SRPEDD and SEED found a permanent home in Taunton, which we purchased, renovated and occupied in August of 1985. We expanded our computer capability to assist cities and towns in the region. We worked hard to obtain state financial support for regional planning and got legislation passed. Funding is still pending. And we survived federal cuts by continuing to work for cities and towns.

SRPEDD has had a busy and productive year. With southeastern Massachusetts as the new growth area for the state, we have a lot more work ahead. We look forward to continuing our role in guiding future growth.

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Bare, Chairman

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director

Assistance To Communities

After many difficult years, the economic fortunes of southeastern Massachusetts are improving. The region is experiencing new development and growth pressures. This challenge is most difficult for smaller towns with large amounts of developable land but no full time planning staff. During the past year SRPEDD filled this planning gap by assisting communities in guiding growth.

Master Plans

Throughout its history SRPEDD has provided assistance to the communities of southeastern Massachusetts in preparing and updating their master plans. During the past year SRPEDD assisted three towns — Middleborough, Seekonk, and Somerset.

The Northwest Middleborough Master Plan Update focused on the impact of rapid growth in one area of Middleborough related to the completion of I-495. The plan examined the impacts of growth and recommended steps to deal with it. The areas covered in the plan are traffic and circulation, zoning, and water and sewer facilities.

The Seekonk Master Plan Update is a review of a master plan prepared in 1979 with the object of updating a set of growth policies for the town. SRPEDD.is also providing zoning advice on matters related to the master plan.

The Somerset Master Plan is a comprehensive examination of growth trends and development characteristics in Somerset. The plan contains recommendations for zoning changes related to residential development, economic development and water resources protection. Other recommendations are related to agricultural land preservation, open space acquisition, historic preservation and infrastructure improvements.

Open Space Plans

An open space plan allows a community to address the problems created by rapid growth by planning for the preservation of important natural areas and providing for the recreational needs of its residents. An open space plan also makes a community eligble for financial assistance from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Massachusetts Self Help Program. During 1985 SRPEDD provided assistance to North Attleborough to update an existing open space plan and to Wareham to prepare a new open space plan.

Growth Projections

An important ingredient in dealing with future growth is understanding the probable amount of that growth. SRPEDD has developed techniques for projecting a community's future population. The method allows projections of specific age groups as well as school enrollment. During 1985 population projections were prepared for Plympton, Seekonk and Wareham. School enrollment projections were prepared for Berkley, Norton and Rochester.

New Mobile Home Development in Taunton.

Zoning

During the past year SRPEDD continued to assist its cities and towns on matters related to zoning. This assistance is described in more detail in the list of municipal assistance projects. It ranges from information requests on specific zoning questions to the review of proposed zoning changes and the drafting of zoning bylaws and ordinances.

Over half of SRPEDD's 28 member cities and towns received some form of zoning assistance in the past year. For example, SRPEDD provided assistance to Freetown in recodifying its zoning bylaw. Recodification is especially useful to communities whose bylaws have been modified and added to over a period of several years.

Development Reviews

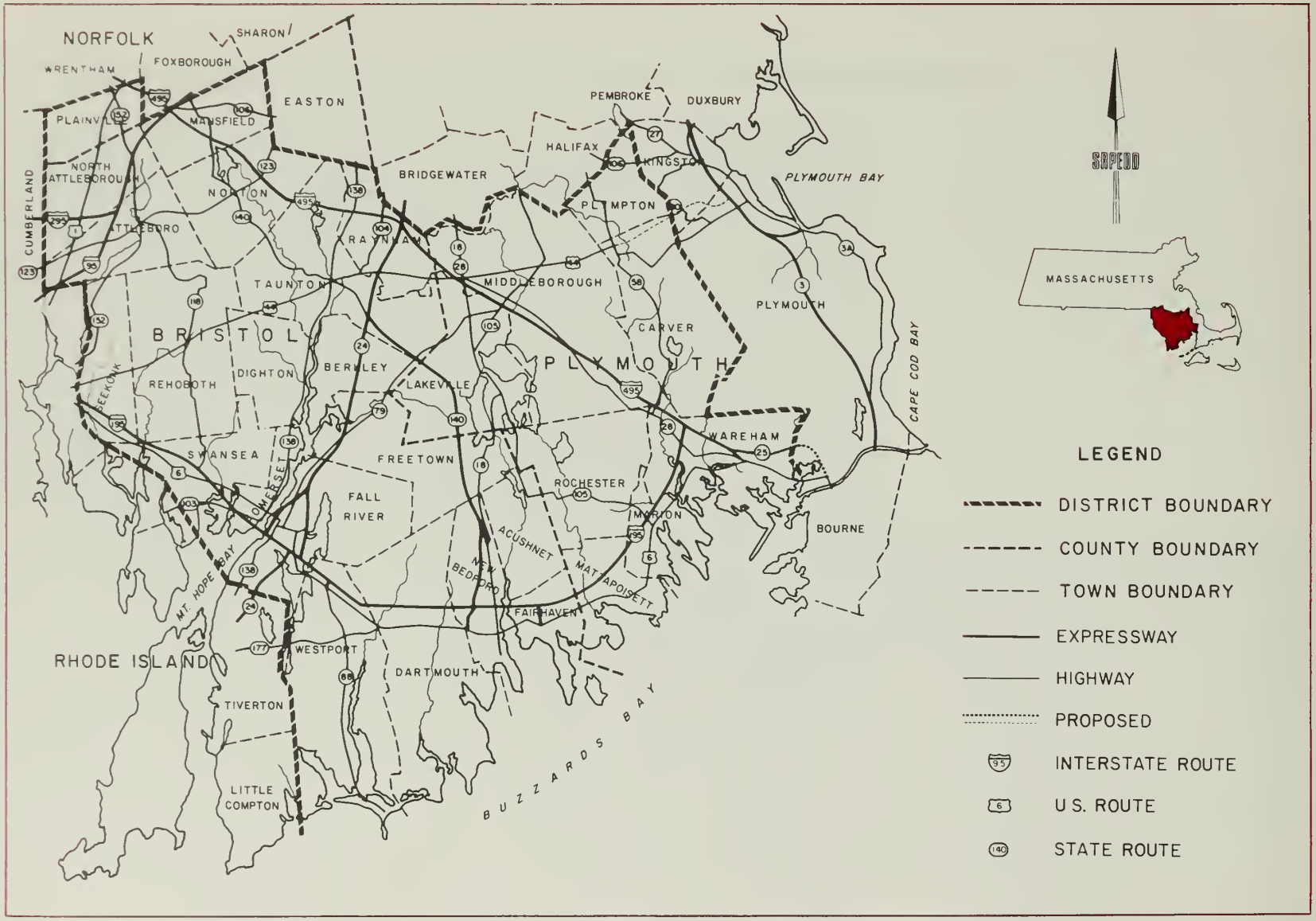
SRPEDD provided direct technical assistance to Plainville and Rehoboth in the review of subdivision applications. Assistance to Plainville was ongoing under a technical assistance contract. Assistance to Rehoboth was a special review of a large subdivision.

Planning Services

SRPEDD used the Incentive Aid Program to help Freetown and Lakeville address the problems of rapid growth. SRPEDD prepared a successful application for funding of a professional planner to be shared by the two towns. The planner will be hired by SRPEDD but will be under contract to the towns. The project is scheduled to last for three years. During the first year the planner will focus on updating zoning regulations, providing advice to town boards and reviewing subdivision applications.

Municipal Assistance Projects 1985 — 1986

Community	Project
Attleboro	Zoning Ordinance Review
Berkley	Review Proposed Zoning Amendment
Carver	Review Proposed Zoning Amendment
Dartmouth	Zoning Bylaw Review; Traffic Analysis (DPW)
Fairhaven	Professional/Technical Services
Fall River	Office of Economic Development — Technical Assistance
Freetown	Bylaw Revisions; Incentive Aid Grant Application
Lakeville	Board of Appeals Workshop
Marion	Update Zoning Map
Middleborough	Update Master Plan; Groundwater Protection Research
North Attleborough	Industrial Park Analysis
Norton	School Population Data
Plainville	Assistance to Planning Board — Subdivision Reviews
Plympton	Open Space Plan — Planning Grant; Open Space Plan
Raynham	Traffic Analysis; Review Proposed Zoning Amendment
Rehoboth	Landfill Inspections; Subdivision Review; Board of Health Regulations
Rochester	Review of Funding Sources; Update School Enrollment Data
Seekonk	Update Master Plan; Assist with Route 6 Task Force
Somerset	Master Plan; Zoning Bylaw Revisions
Taunton	Cultural Master Plan; Subdivision Regulations Update; Assistance on Growth Management Study
Wareham	Zoning Bylaw Amendment; Economic Analysis — Cranberry Highway; Open Space Plan


NORFOLK
SHARON
FOXBOROUGH
WRENTHAM
EASTON
PEMBROKE
DUXBURY
PLAINVILLE
MANSFIELD
HALIFAX
KINGSTON
PLYMOUTH BAY
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
NORTON
BRIDGEWATER
PLYMPTON
CUMBERLAND
ATTLEBORO
RAYNHAM
TAUNTON
MIDDLEBOROUGH
PLYMOUTH
BRISTOL
CARVER
CAPE COD BAY
BERKLEY
DIGHTON
REHOBOTH
LAKEVILLE
WAREHAM
SWANSEA
FREETOWN
ROCHESTER
FALL RIVER
MARION
BOURNE
ACUSHNET
MATTAPOISETT
NEW BEDFORD
MT. HOPE BAY
FAIRHAVEN
RHODE ISLAND
WESTPORT
DARTMOUTH
TIVERTON
LITTLE COMPTON
BUZZARDS BAY
SRPEDD
MASSACHUSETTS
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
COUNTY BOUNDARY
TOWN BOUNDARY
EXPRESSWAY
HIGHWAY
PROPOSED
INTERSTATE ROUTE
U.S. ROUTE
STATE ROUTE

Transportation

Transportation planning is an important aspect in guiding growth. SRPEDD's major transportation project for 1985 and 1986 has been the replacement of the Brightman Street Bridge. The bridge has been a bottleneck to traffic in Fall River, Somerset and communities on the upper banks of the Taunton River.

SRPEDD also continued to plan for the highway system of southeastern Massachusetts — 3,200 miles of roads; 100 miles of rail lines; four municipal airports; two major seaports; and two public transit systems that carry six million passengers per year.

As part of the ongoing transportation planning, SRPEDD prepared required documents such as the Transportation Improvement Program, Unified Work Program and Regional Transportation Plan. These documents were approved by the Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) and endorsed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

The JTPG is an advisory committee made up of local officials. The MPO is made up of the following representatives: Secretary, Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Commissioner, MDPW; Chairman, SRTA; Chairman, GATRA; and Chairman, SRPEDD.

Brightman Street Bridge

A major transportation study begun in 1985 and expected to be completed this year is the Brightman Street Bridge replacement. Crucial to vehicular and navigational traffic in north Fall River, Somerset and other communities bordering the Taunton River, the bridge has been a subject of concern for many years.

In March 1985 SRPEDD was awarded a contract by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works (MDPW) to conduct an Environmental Assessment and Engineering Study for replacement of the aging bridge. The Engineering Study, subcontracted to the firm of Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade and Douglas, Inc., includes a hydraulic study, bridge type study and subsurface borings.

The Environmental Assessment identifies several bridge features which create problems for navigational and roadway traffic. The bridge's narrow drawspan has a clear width of only 98 feet and is a hazard to large fuel barges serving the Montaup Electric Company and Shell Oil facilities upriver. As a result, barges and their tugs have struck the bridge more than twenty times in the last five years, twice closing it to auto traffic for several months of costly repairs.

Existing Brightman Street Bridge with the site for proposed relocation to the left.

Transportation

A low vertical clearance of only 27 feet also creates problems. As a result, the drawspan must be raised frequently — over 1,400 times in 1983 — to allow the passage of vessels exceeding that height. This backs up roadway traffic on both sides of the river, particularly in Somerset, where the capacity deficiency of the intersection of routes 6, 138 and 103 creates a major bottleneck.

Planning for a new bridge seeks to correct these problems by increasing the horizontal and vertical clearances of the drawspan opening, locating the opening in the center of the channel, and improving the intersection of routes 6 and 138 in Somerset.

SRPEDD proposes replacing the existing Brightman Street Bridge with a new, five-lane moveable span bridge. This planned bridge will provide 60-foot vertical clearance and 150-foot horizontal clearance and will be located approximately 1,500 feet north of the existing structure, which will then be torn down.

Like the current bridge, the proposed span will carry routes 6 and 138 across the river and join Route 79 in Fall River. The intersection of routes 6, 138 and 103 will be replaced by an overpass and ramp system joining routes 6 and 138 only. The new bridge will measure approximately 1,200 feet from shore to shore with the drawbridge opening located near the center of the span.

The new bridge's increased height will greatly reduce the number of openings. When combined with traffic improvements on both sides of the river, the new bridge will improve traffic flow, air quality and travel safety in the area. The increased horizontal clearance of 150 feet, in addition to lowering the risk of collision, will allow passage of larger-capacity vessels, thereby reducing the frequency of delivery. Furthermore, no businesses or homes will have to be taken or relocated.

Middleborough Circle and I-495

SRPEDD's recommendations were developed in close cooperation with the MDPW and the Brightman Street Bridge Task Force, a group representing local citizens, businessmen and officials from Fall River and Somerset.

Somerset Road Conditions

SRPEDD's transportation staff introduced a new service for its member communities in 1985 with the completion of a road conditions survey for the Town of Somerset. Every road in town was surveyed and its condition rated by a scoring system developed by Texas A&M University.

Pavement maintenance recommendations were made along with detailed descriptions of each road's condition and importance to townwide traffic circulation.

Northwest Middleborough Traffic

Because of the future impact which several development proposals are expected to have on the area, the town asked SRPEDD to evaluate the road network in northwest Middleborough.

The SRPEDD study recommended widening to 20 feet portions of three rural roads — Old Center, Plymouth, and Summer streets. It projected the need for four lanes on Bedford Street north of the rotary. The study also projected the need for improvements at the Route 495/44 interchange and possibly the route 495/18 interchange, and recommended monitoring of these interchanges.

Route 44 and the Middleborough Circle were addressed in detail. SRPEDD made several recommendations for Route 44. The study projected that the Circle would need revisions by 2005, and recommended that the town initiate an engineering study of the overpass concept to determine its viability.

New Bedford Downtown Parking and Traffic

With the assistance of the city planning department, SRPEDD conducted an analysis of existing traffic flow and parking supply in downtown New Bedford.

The study's recommendations were of particular interest to downtown merchants. The study recommended enforcement of the two hour limit for metered curb parking. The study found that as many as 200 people per day were tying up metered spaces for over three hours. This practice was hurting downtown businesses.

SRPEDD looked at what impact removing the mall would have on downtown traffic circulation and parking and concluded that removal was warranted in order to increase the parking supply.

Since a reopened Purchase Street will no longer be a major north-south connection, SRPEDD recommended one lane — one way street traffic circulation with either angle parking on one side or parallel on both sides. SRPEDD further recommended that these parking spaces be controlled with one hour parking meters. These spaces will become prime parking locations for many nearby businesses and should not be monopolized by downtown employees.

Federal Aid Highway Projects 1985

Complete

Safety Improvements at Six Locations, Swansea	$ 817,000
Tremont Street Reconstruction, Rehoboth	1,810,000
Route 58 Reconstruction, Carver/Wareham	3,100,000
Route 88/177 Interchange, Westport	1,600,000
Route 88 Resurfacing, Westport	425,000
Davol Street Viaduct Removal, Fall River	215,000
Route 58 Reconstruction, Plympton/Halifax	3,530,000
Brayton Point Road Reconstruction, Somerset	858,000
I-495 Truck Inspection/Rest Area, Raynham	671,000

Underway

Water Street Bridge Replacement, Fall River	1,600,000
Pleasant Street Reconstruction, Fall River	1,200,000
Oak Street Reconstruction, Swansea	1,030,000
Davol Street Bridge Replacement, Fall River	2,400,000

Advertised

I-95 Truck Inspection/Rest Area, Attleboro	382,000
South Main Street Bridge Replacement, Freetown	790,000
Peckham Road Reconstruction, Acushnet	700,000

Transportation

Attleboro Northeast Bypass

The northeast bypass study evaluated the road network north of the Attleboro Central Business District and its service to east-west traffic movement.

Two types of improvements for the northern bypass were considered — new road construction to more effectively connect routes 123, 152, I-95 and I-295, and improving the existing road network to better accommodate traffic flow.

SRPEDD concluded that the environmental and economic costs for new road construction or extensions were excessive and not entirely justified by traffic conditions and needs, and recommended the upgrading of the existing Holden Street/Starkey Avenue corridor.

Mapping

As part of its transportation planning work, SRPEDD continued to update official city and town street maps originally produced by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works.

The map updating consists of adding new streets and roads, making corrections and producing an inventory printout for all streets. The updating started in 1984. Maps for approximately half of the 28 SRPEDD communities have been completed. The rest will be completed by next year.

North Attleborough Traffic

The completion of the Landry Avenue connection from Route 152 to North Attleborough's downtown brought with it concerns over traffic safety at the intersections along this new route.

SRPEDD analyzed operations at five intersections and agreed that changes made in stop sign locations were warranted. Traffic signals, however, could not be justified at this time.

Excessive speed on Landry Avenue and Mount Hope Street is still a problem that the town is attempting to solve with the assistance of the Massachusetts Department of Public Works.

Mass Transit

During the past year SRPEDD continued to provide transit planning assistance to the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA), and the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA). In its planning process SRPEDD gave special consideration to the needs of the elderly and the handicapped. In addition, SRPEDD participated in meetings of the Advisory Committee to the Governor's Commission on Accessible Transportation.

SRTA

Services provided to SRTA included:

- Conducting a shelter survey to develop policy and guidelines for future shelters.
- Evaluating special route service for the elderly between New Bedford and Fairhaven.
- Evaluating the Bristol Community College transit route trial.
- Identifying the transit needs of factory workers in New Bedford and Fall River.
- Conducting a newspaper survey to identify the needs of elderly and handicapped transit users.

GATRA

Services provided to GATRA included:

- Continuing a ridership statistics analysis — SRPEDD continued to develop a system for analyzing and reporting on ridership data collected by GATRA.
- Developing a zone fare structure — SRPEDD provided a study of fare zones that was substantially implemented by GATRA. Twenty-five cent zones were initiated in the downtown areas of Taunton and Attleboro, and the zones and zone fares between Taunton and Attleboro and between Taunton and Providence were adjusted.
- Assisting in the selection of a design consultant for the GATRA maintenance garage.
- Conducting an "on-board" survey for commuter rail users from Attleboro and Mansfield to Boston.
- Inventorying parking capacity for commuter rail users in Attleboro and Mansfield.

Economic Development

Developing an "incubator" to house small start-up business was SRPEDD's top economic development priority during the past year. SRPEDD's Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) ranked the small businesses incubator as the number one project for the region.

With SRPEDD's assistance and funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the region now has five industrial parks in place to service growing companies. There is no economic development mechanism, however, to assist the start-up entrepreneur.

Studies show that most of the new job creation comes from businesses with 20 employees or less. Three quarters of all businesses, however, fail within the first two or three years. Experience shows that incubators can cut the failure rate of new businesses to 15 percent.

With these facts in mind, SRPEDD worked with SEED Corporation to prepare an application for a $900,000 grant from EDA to construct a 30,000 square foot facility in the Fall River Airport Industrial Park.

SRPEDD worked with the Ad Hoc Incubator Committee to find a site for the facility, develop a preliminary budget and negotiate a match for the grant. The City of Fall River agreed to contribute $100,000 towards the project and the Greater Fall River Development Corporation contributed $100,000 and five acres in the industrial park.

The incubator will provide small amounts of industrial rental space anywhere from 300 to 3,000 square feet, at a reasonable cost. This kind of space is generally not available to start-up and young businesses in the region. The incubator will also provide basic support services such as a manager, secretary/receptionist, copying, and a conference/lunch room. The facility will provide the services and environment which start-up businesses need to survive, grow and provide the jobs of tomorrow.

With the assistance of the Economic Development Committee, SRPEDD prepared an update to the Overall Economic Development Program for the region. The report includes an analysis of the region's economy and outlines an agenda for future development. It looks at the past and plans for the future.

Providing technical assistance to communities was another aspect of SRPEDD's economic development effort. This included working with Fall River on an $800,000 Community Development Action Grant (CDAG) for public improvements to Columbia Street, and preparing applications for grants to fund roads and sewer to service the new 130-acre addition to the Airport Industrial Park.

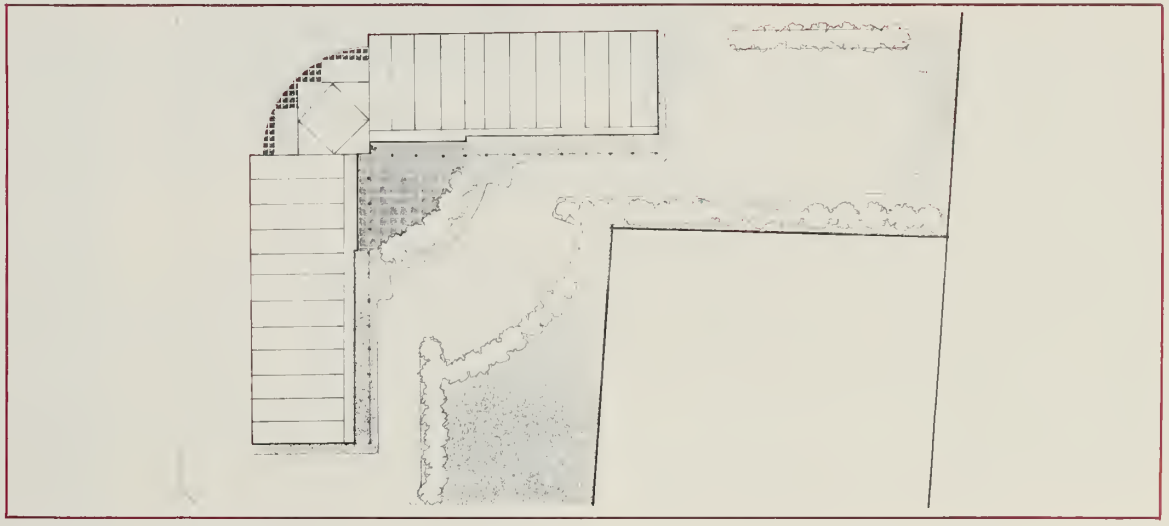
SEED

SRPEDD continued to provide staff assistance to the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation which provides low interest financing to small businesses in southeastern Massachusetts.

So far SEED has provided financing to 16 businesses under the 503 Program sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The small business projects total approximately $6.5 million and will create 300 new jobs.

Under SEED's own one million dollar Revolving Loan Fund Program, 15 small businesses have been assisted. Their projects total approximately $6 million and are expected to create an additional 230 jobs.

SRPEDD also provided SEED with the staff assistance necessary to develop the small business incubator project and prepare a major grant application.



Incubator concept design.

Environment and Energy

Hazardous Waste Management

Safe management and disposal of hazardous waste may be the number one environmental issue of the 1980's, and SRPEDD has been involved at all levels. In the past year, we have addressed the problem as it occurs in the home (household pickup), in small business (auto body workshop) and in larger industry (industrial source reduction).

Task Force On Environmental Management

SRPEDD's participation in the Southeastern Massachusetts Task Force on Environmental Management continued during the past year with two projects: an industrial "source reduction" program and a hazardous waste handbook for local officials.

The source reduction project addresses the waste problems of the plating industry. Source reduction — defined as the on-site reduction in the hazard and or volume of industrial hazardous waste — can be achieved through changes in manufacturing processes, improved technology, or raw material substitutions.

SRPEDD organized a "Source Reduction Advisory Group" composed of plating industry representatives from the district. Since the plating industry is responsible for 42 percent of the hazardous wastes produced in Massachusetts, this project could significantly reduce the Commonwealth's overall hazardous waste problem.

SRPEDD's second task, the hazardous waste handbook, is directed at local boards of health, planning boards, conservation commissions and boards of selectmen. Its purpose is to inform these boards of their legal authority and responsibilities concerning various hazardous waste issues; and the procedures they should follow in case of a hazardous waste accident.

Operation Clean Sweep '86

SRPEDD served as local coordinator and liaison for "Operation Clean Sweep '86." This program, sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, will fund household hazardous waste collection days throughout the state. Under the program, the state will provide $400,000 in matching funds to communities planning household hazardous waste collection events.

On collection day, residents can bring old cans of paint, chemicals, cleaners, etc. to a designated site where the wastes will be collected and removed by a licensed hazardous waste hauler. The program's goal is to reduce the volume of hazardous materials in municipal landfills, sewage treatment systems, and groundwater.

Buzzards Bay Study

SRPEDD has been a participant in the Environmental Protection Agency's Buzzards Bay Study, one of five being conducted by the EPA nationwide.

The study is examining the environmental and economic impacts of pollution in the bay. SRPEDD is a member of the management committee and citizen's committee, and has a subcontract to examine local bylaws and regulations to determine how they can be improved to upgrade water quality.

The study has found that there is untapped potential to regulate surface and groundwater quality in subdivision regulations, zoning, board of health regulations, earth removal regulations and several other local bylaws.

Energy Advisor Service

Under a contract with the Executive Office of Energy Resources, SRPEDD marketed the State's Energy Advisor Service (EAS) Program. The program provided assistance to manufacturing businesses spending more than $75,000 per year on process energy by analyzing their energy use and developing money-saving alternatives.

The EAS program subsidizes the cost of a production-process energy audit by a private sector engineer, Bruce Norian of Norian/Wood Associates, Inc. The cost to eligible companies is $400 for up to four full days of service.

So far 20 companies have signed contracts and 13 audits have been completed. A typical company can expect to save 15 to 20 percent in the first year after making improvements recommended by an analysis.

Budget

SRPEDD finances its services to the region and member communities through federal and state grants, local assessments and special contracts with member communities.

In fiscal 1986 SRPEDD received $621,000 from federal and state agencies. Assessments on member communities, contracts with municipalities and other local revenue contributed another $178,000. SRPEDD's total budget was $799,000.

Approximately 61 percent of the funds paid for staff salaries and fringe benefits. Consultants accounted for 19 percent. Most of the consulting fees were spent on work on the Brightman Street Bridge. Rent, utilities, travel and other expenses accounted for the balance.

Program Spending

• Economic Development	$83,000
• Energy	40,000
• Environment	20,000
• Transportation Planning	168,000
• Brightman Street Bridge	221,000
• Transit	146,000
• Local Contracts	121,000
TOTAL	$799,000

New SRPEDD/SEED Office
88 Broadway Taunton

Commission and Staff

SRPEDD Commission 1985-1986

ACUSHNET
Leo N. Coons, Jr.

ATTLEBORO
Leo Sicuranza, Melville Moody

BERKLEY
Laurence T. Wilson, Jr., S. Kenneth Woodward

CARVER
Arthur P. DeCoursey, Warren Greene

DARTMOUTH
Michael McCarthy, Basil Castaldi

DIGHTON
Allan L. Campbell, Manuel Ferreira

FAIRHAVEN
Kenneth R. Vining, Raymond Fleurent

FALL RIVER
Alfred Edwards, Robert P. Alves

FREETOWN
Cynthia A. Cardin, Paul Magee

LAKEVILLE
Luke Leonard, Jr.

MANSFIELD
Joseph M. Zeneski, Marydee Flynn

MARION
Richard Lagreze, Franklin Winters

MATTAPOISETT
James F. Huntoon, William H. Matthews

MIDDLEBOROUGH
Lawrence E. Carver, John Santin, Jr.

NEW BEDFORD
Denise Poyant

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
Felix T. Speight, Patricia Redding

NORTON
Alan F. Fracalosi, Janice Hayes

PLAINVILLE
Andrea Soucy

PLYMPTON
Lee A. Johnson, Joyce Ruprecht

RAYNHAM
Emeline MacDonald, Glenn R. Miller

REHOBOTH
Suzanne M. DiPietro, Diane M. Biello

ROCHESTER
George G. Bare

SEEKONK
Charles Terzian

SOMERSET
Donald J. Hussey, Frank V. Mattos

SWANSEA
Michael W. Finglas, Brian Gingras

TAUNTON
Fernand Medeiros, John L. Viveiros

WAREHAM
Donald L. Carlson, Ken Monast

WESTPORT
Julia S. Enroth, Edmund Medeiros

FALL RIVER AREA
David R. Costa, Paul Correia

Officers

George G. Bare, *Chairman*
Allan L. Campbell, *Vice Chairman*
Lawrence E. Carver, *Secretary*
Denise M. Poyant, *Treasurer*
Donald L. Hussey, *Assistant Treasurer*
Emeline MacDonald, *Past Chairman*

SRPEDD Staff 1985-1986

Stephen C. Smith, *Executive Director*
Albert O. Barbour, *PE, Senior Engineer*
Joanne M. Bouchard, *Senior Secretary/Senior Bookkeeper*
Nancy J. Bumbaugh, *Secretary*
Debra Fruzzetti, *Brightman Street Bridge Planner*
Dennis Gomes, *Transit Planner*
Maria Gooch, *Director of Economic Development*
Susan P. Green, *Principal Secretary*
James C. Hadfield, *Senior Transportation Planner*
Laura Harbottle, *Transit Planner*
Roland J. Hebert, *Director of Highway Planning*
Karl Hergenrother, *Student Intern*
Shirley E. Louro, *Controller*
Kathleen MacRae, *Principal Economic Development Planner*
Thomas A. Pisaturo, *Director of Municipal Assistance*
John J. Pobst, *Director of Transit Planning*
Steven W. Reckhow, *Director of Environmental Planning*
Susan Reid, *Student Intern*
Charles M. Repeta, Jr., *Transportation Planning Manager*
Anita E. Sabourin, *Graphics Specialist*
Susan W. Sherman, *Transportation Cartographer*
Thomas Simbro, *Student Intern*
Michele S. Stone, *Director of Administration*
Rachel Tedesco, *Principal Planner*
Wilbur G. Tirrell, *Legal Specialist*
Lucy Whatley, *Maintenance Aide*

SRPEDD Staff

88 Broadway · Taunton, MA 02780

SRPEDD

ANNUAL REPORT

MASS.
Y3.SR1/1:
983

COLLECTION
FEB 27 1985
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

INTO THE FUTURE...

Contents

Into the Future	1
Economic Development	2
Energy and Environment	4
Transportation	6
Housing and Community Development	9
Municipal Assistance	10
Financial Review	12
Commission and Staff	13

Credits

Maria Gooch, editor
Anita Sabourin, graphics specialist
Susan Green, senior secretary

Into the Future

Emeline MacDonald
Chairman

Stephen C. Smith
Executive Director

Nineteen eighty-three was a good year. In the face of federal budget cutting, SRPEDD emerged stronger; during a national economic recession, southeastern Massachusetts began to fulfill its promise.

We at SRPEDD are involved in exciting issues at an exciting time. It is our challenge to help move southeastern Massachusetts into the future. Our work in 1983 focused on several areas:

- Technical assistance was provided to our 28 member communities on various issues
- SRPEDD played a major role in several regional initiatives, including the Golden Connection Conference in New Haven, the effort to secure the microelectronics center; the New Bedford Regional Forum; the Fall River-Westport-Dartmouth water agreement; the Southeastern Massachusetts Task Force on Environmental Management; the Route 44 Task Force and the Southeastern Massachusetts Transportation Forum
- SRPEDD was in the forefront of several major infrastructure issues, including replacement of the Berkley-Dighton Bridge and the outmoded Brightman Street Bridge; finding acceptable solid waste disposal solutions; completion of routes 44 and 25; and providing adequate water and sewer service. We also played major roles in the expansion and development of industrial parks in four communities

Last year saw SEED Corporation become fully operational. Four SBA loans for economic expansion were approved creating 66 new jobs and producing $1.4 million in total investment.

There was also a major disappointment during the year--the cancellation of the $3 billion coal gasification project planned for Fall River by EG&G, Inc.

Commission and staff members worked closely together to make 1983 a successful year. We look forward to continuing our work together to move southeastern Massachusetts into the future.

Economic Development

Providing financial assistance to small businesses was SRPEDD's top economic development priority in 1983. With funding and approval from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) SRPEDD staffed the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation.

The corporation was certified under the "503 Program" by the U.S. Small Business Administration the previous year. During 1983 SRPEDD staff spent many hours marketing the "503" Program and getting SEED "off the ground." So far the corporation has packaged four loans totaling $1.4 million and creating 66 new jobs. SEED also applied to EDA for a $500,000 regional revolving loan fund to assist businesses too small for "503." The program is expected to begin in late 1984.

SRPEDD continued to work with other regional leaders to improve the image of southeastern Massachusetts and attract new growth industries. SRPEDD staff actively participated in the "Golden Connection East" conference held in October in Connecticut and prepared the informational literature for the event:

- Land and Buildings
- Education and Manpower
- Finance
- Quality of Life
- Transportation and Utilities

With the assistance of the Economic Development Committee, SRPEDD prepared an update to the Overall Economic Development Program for the region. The report includes an analysis of the region's economy and outlines an agenda for future development. It looks at the past and plans for the future.

Providing technical assistance to communities was another major aspect of SRPEDD's economic development effort. This included working with: Fall River on a $500,000 revolving loan fund application, a Community Development Action Grant (CDAG) for public improvements accompanying the Durfee Union Mills Complex, and drafting "Decade for Progress: The First 2000 Days;" Mattapoisett on an industrial site analysis; Wareham on the future development of the Cranberry Highway; Dartmouth on the development of Rt 6; Friends of the Bluffs, Inc., a neighborhood group in Swansea; and Weir Corporation, a neighborhood group in Taunton.

Whether assisting small businesses to grow, attracting new ones or preparing communities for economic development, SRPEDD's work has focussed on creating jobs and improving the business climate for the residents of southeastern Massachusetts.

"503" Program Highlights

Eligible Project

- Acquisition of land and/or buildings
- Construction and/or renovation
- Equipment and furnishings

Eligible Business

- For-profit corporation, partnership or proprietorship
- Net worth not in excess of $6M
- Average less than $2 million net profit during previous two years

Loan Structure

- 50 percent from bank at market rate
- 40 percent from SEED at lower, fixed rate up to 25 years
- 10 percent from applicant

GOLDEN CONNECTION EAST

Energy and Environment

Ocean Grove District Heating

With funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy, SRPEDD continued to work with Friends of the Bluffs to investigate the use of waste heat from the Brayton Point power plant.

The proposed system would involve installation of pipes to carry warm water from the power plant to Ocean Grove. Each home would then use a heat pump to extract heat from warm water, thereby reducing heating bills.

The preliminary engineering analysis indicated that the district heating plan is technically feasible but not presently profitable enough to attract the private financing required for construction. As a result, the project is on hold until oil prices rise again sharply.

Solid Waste Disposal

As landfill space becomes increasingly scarce, communities throughout the region are wondering what to do with their trash. Taunton and Middleborough each asked SRPEDD to evaluate alternatives and recommend a course of action.

Despite the differences of the communities, the conclusions of the studies were quite similar:

- every option was more expensive than the current practice of using old municipal landfills;
- the most expensive option would be a new municipal landfill;
- the least expensive option would be to use the proposed SEMASS facility in Rochester; and
- the cost of trucking trash makes the use of more distant disposal sites uneconomical.

Middleborough recently signed a contract to use the SEMASS facility; Taunton is investigating the development of a small, local waste-to-energy facility.

Hazardous Waste

The term "hazardous waste" evokes emotions of fear and anger. But many of the chemicals labeled hazardous are handled properly by many industries in southeastern Massachusetts.

To inform the public about this important issue, SRPEDD entered into a contract in 1983 with Southeastern Massachusetts University for $11,500.

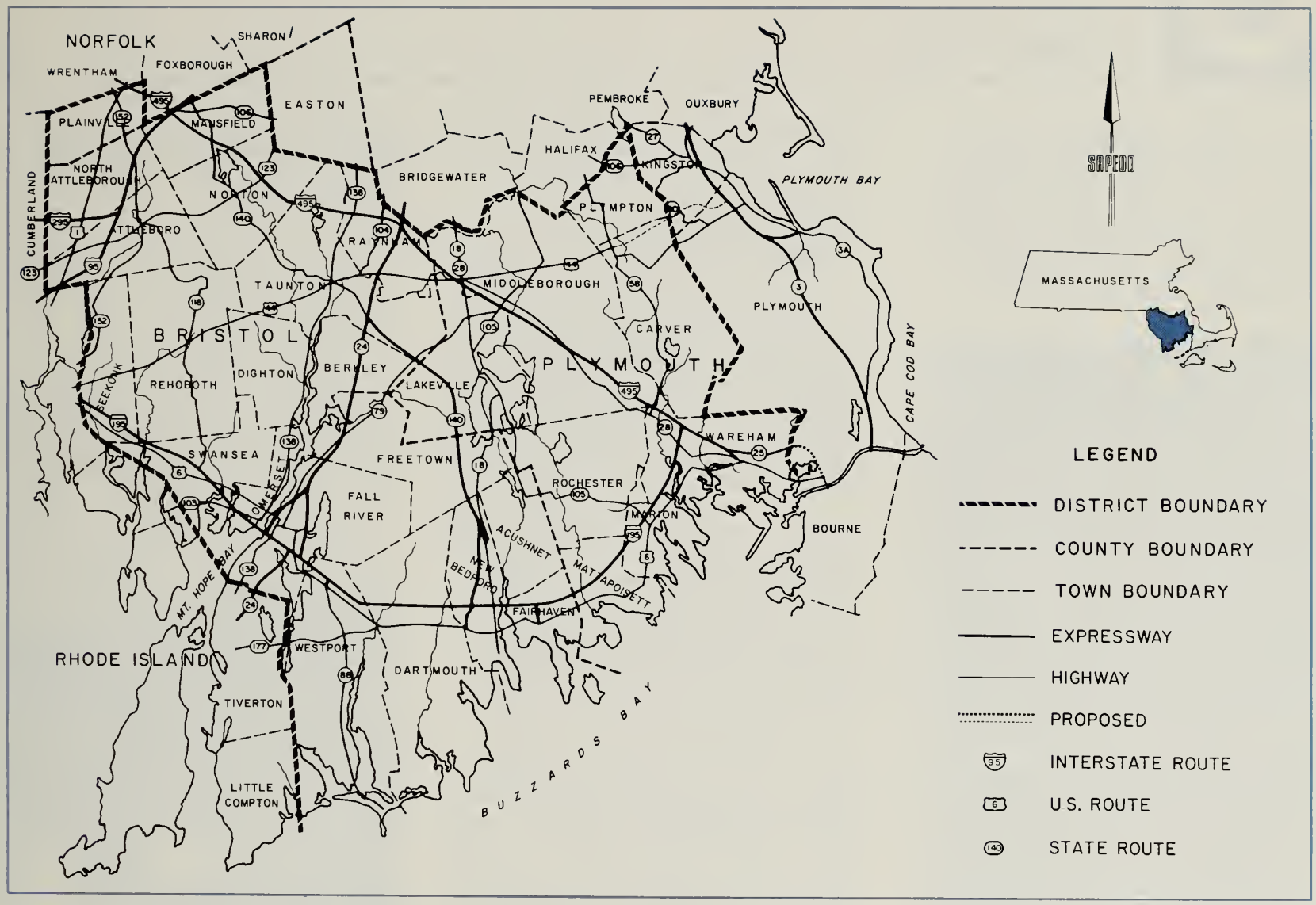
As part of the contract SRPEDD has organized public tours of industrial plants presently handling hazardous wastes; and has worked closely with the media to inform the public about hazardous waste issues.

Historic Resources

Under a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, SRPEDD developed an innovative program for the protection of historic and archaeologic resources.

The program allows a community to use its local powers to regulate development to protect valuable historic resources.

Proposed plans for subdivisions, earth removal operations and wetlands alterations would be referred to the local historic commission for its review and suggestions as to how vulnerable resources might be protected.


NORFOLK
SHARON
WRENTHAM
FOXBOROUGH
EASTON
PEMBROKE
OUXBURY
PLAINVILLE
MANSFIELD
HALIFAX
KINGSTON
PLYMOUTH BAY
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
NORTON
BRIDGEWATER
PLYMPTON
CUMBERLAND
ATTLEBORO
RAYNHAM
TAUNTON
MIDDLEBOROUGH
PLYMOUTH
BRISTOL
CARVER
CAPE COD BAY
REHOBOTH
DIGHTON
BERKLEY
LAKEVILLE
WAREHAM
SWANSEA
FREETOWN
ROCHESTER
FALL RIVER
MARION
BOURNE
ACUSHNET
NEW BEDFORD
MATTAPOISETT
MT. HOPE BAY
FAIRHAVEN
RHODE ISLAND
WESTPORT
DARTMOUTH
TIVERTON
LITTLE COMPTON
BUZZARDS BAY
SAGAMORE
MASSACHUSETTS
LEGEND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
COUNTY BOUNDARY
TOWN BOUNDARY
EXPRESSWAY
HIGHWAY
PROPOSED
INTERSTATE ROUTE
U.S. ROUTE
STATE ROUTE

Transportation

In 1983 SRPEDD continued to plan for the highway system of southeastern Massachusetts--3,200 miles of roads; 100 miles of rail lines; four municipal airports; two major seaports; and two public transit systems that carry six million passengers a year.

After several years of preparing for future development the region has its major highway network in place with the exception of two highway links and replacement of five bridges:

- Route 25--Construction of the extension from Wareham to the Cape Cod Canal
- Route 44--Relocation from Carver to Route 3 in Plymouth
- Berkley/Dighton Bridge--Replacement when the two communities reach an agreement
- Fall River Braga Bridge--Scheduled for deck replacement by 1988
- Fall River Brightman Street Bridge--The Massachusetts Department of Public Works (MDPW) has contracted with SRPEDD to prepare the engineering and environmental assessment necessary for a new bridge
- New Bedford/Fairhaven Bridge--No progress is expected until the problem of disposal of "PCB" contaminated dredge material is solved
- Wareham Narrows Bridge--Replacement is expected in 1984

The completion of Interstate 495 has already made an impact on the economic vitality of the region. New development is occurring in industrial parks in Taunton and Middleborough. Counts show an 18 percent increase in traffic volumes in 1983 along the interstate.

To address potential problems along access points to the interstate--Route 123 in Norton, Route 138 in Raynham and Taunton, the Middleborough rotary and routes 105 and 79 in Lakeville--SRPEDD is planning special studies for the next few years.

Required documents, such as the Transportation Improvements Program, Unified Work Program and Regional Transportation Plan were prepared by SRPEDD, approved by the Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG) and endorsed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

The JTPG is an advisory committee made up of local officials. The MPO is made up of the following representatives:

- Secretary--Executive Office of Transportation and Construction
- Commissioner--Massachusetts DPW
- Chairman--SRTA
- Chairman--GATRA
- Chairman--SRPEDD

Preparation and endorsement of the documents made the region eligible for federal funding of transportation projects.

In 1983 SRPEDD was also involved in the preparation for the reconstruction of the Southeast Expressway--the eight miles of roadway and bridges from the Route 128 interchange in Quincy to the Massachusetts Avenue interchange in Boston.

In order to reduce traffic and minimize disruption to commuters during work, the State DPW contracted with SRPEDD to assist in informing the public and promoting alternative means of travel.

An ongoing function of SRPEDD is to conduct special studies to help

area communities solve their highway related problems. This assistance is made possible by the state DPW and the Federal Highway Administration. Special studies conducted in 1983 included:

- Attleboro--Triangle of routes I-95, 1 and 1A
- Dighton/Taunton--Truck traffic and routing
- Fall River--Downtown parking
- Norton--Intersection of routes 140 and 123
- Seekonk--Route 114A between routes 6 and 44
- Wareham--Parking and circulation

Mass Transit

In 1983 SRPEDD continued to plan for public transit systems in the region.

SRPEDD provided support to the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) and the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA). Regional certification documents were prepared for both authorities.

SRTA's major accomplishments in 1983 included:

- modernization of the Fall River maintenance garage,
- addition of four specially-equipped buses to the demand-responsive service in New Bedford and Fall River, and
- construction of the downtown passenger terminal in New Bedford.

Major events in the GATRA system were:

- institution of demand-responsive service in Dighton and Attleboro,
- extension of the Whittenton Route to the Paul Dever State School in Taunton,
- addition of a third all-day bus in Taunton,
- schedule revisions to ease downtown Taunton transfers, and
- a usage increase of 9.8% for the commuter rail facilities.

Total Ridership
(Fixed Bus Routes)

SRTA

1980	6,635,000
1981	7,008,000
1982	5,146,000
1983	4,313,000

GATRA

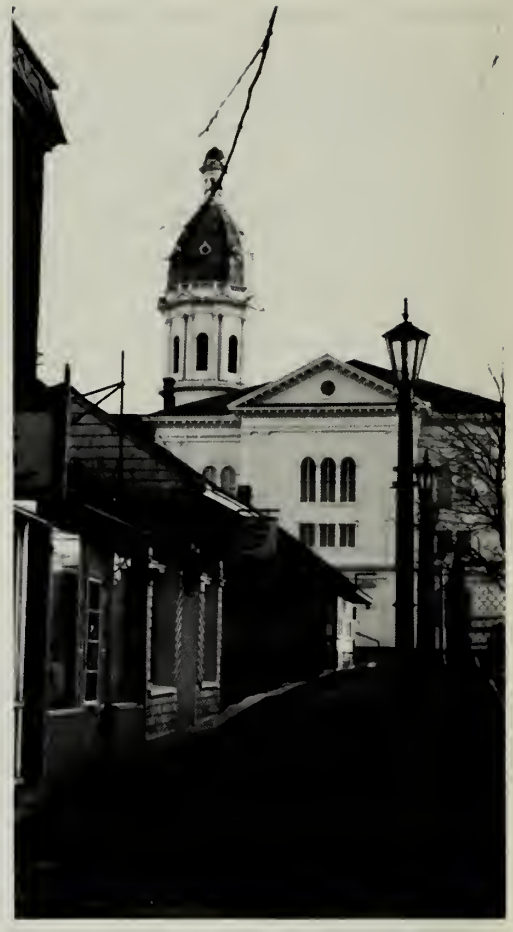
1980	182,125
1981	280,116
1982	315,200
1983	348,845

Note: The decrease in SRTA ridership was due to cancellation of a special program for school children in Fall River and a fare increase.

Highway Projects Funded - FY 83

INTERSTATE	
• I-495, Franklin/Mansfield--Surface Rehabilitation	$ 541,900
URBAN SYSTEMS	
• Landry Avenue, North Attleborough--Construct Connecting Segment	824,900
• Routes 88/177, Westport--Resurface and Construct Ramps	1,597,200
RURAL SECONDARY	
• South Meadow Road, Carver--Reconstruct	900,000
• Route 58, Wareham/Carver--Reconstruct	3,100,000
• Route 88, Westport--Resurface	424,800
HIGHWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND REHABILITATION	
• Main Street Bridge, Wareham--Replace	840,000
• Main Street Bridge, Wareham (PE)	60,000
• Route 6 Narrows Bridge, Wareham (PE)	200,000
TOTAL FUNDING.....	$8,488,800

PE--Planning and Engineering



Housing and Community Development

Housing Conversion and Rehabilitation

The Housing Conversion and Rehabilitation Program sponsored by SRPEDD and the South Shore Housing Development Corporation was successfully completed during 1983. A total of $92,000 was provided to six projects resulting in the creation of sixteen units.

The program generated a total of $320,000 of housing construction activity. It was designed to increase housing opportunities by assisting property owners to convert single-family homes into two or more dwelling units and by rehabilitating existing vacant substandard apartments.

As of September 1, 1983, fifty-one low- and moderate-income persons were residing in units provided by the program. Property owners received a grant equal to 30 percent of the cost of eligible improvements.

Housing projects were distributed throughout Attleboro, New Bedford, Norton, Swansea and Taunton.

Town Centers

During 1983 SRPEDD provided technical assistance to Fairhaven and Middleborough in the administration of small city Community Development Block Grants designed to improve their town centers.

SRPEDD prepared environmental assessments and assisted the towns to meet initial program reporting requirements and hiring community development staff.

Fairhaven has completed its first year program of improvements to water, sewer and drainage systems in the Village Center. Middleborough is in the process of completing its first year program of downtown commercial revitalization.

In September Fairhaven received another small cities grant for additional sewer system improvements in the Village Center.

In July Middleborough received additional small cities funds for commercial revitalization and residential rehabilitation.

Joint Community Development

SRPEDD provided assistance to Lakeville and Taunton with the preparation of a $283,000 Community Development Action Grant. The grant will be used to improve water lines in East Taunton and for a 2,500 foot water line extension into Lakeville. The water system improvements will enable SPACE Metal Bldgs to construct a 50,000 square foot addition and develop phase one of Lakeport Park.

SPACE Metal Bldgs manufactures and assembles pre-engineered metal buildings. Lakeport Park is a 65-acre industrial park located on Route 44 in Lakeville bordering Taunton. The park will be designed to accommodate light manufacturing, warehousing and office-research facilities.

SPACE Metal Bldgs will invest $4.2 million. The plant addition will create 40 new jobs. When all 65 acres of the Lakeport Park are developed, as many as 1,000 new jobs will be created.

Municipal Assistance

In addition to regional planning and overall economic development, SRPEDD provides free municipal assistance to member communities. In 1983 twenty-five communities took advantage of the program. Services ranged from assisting with a zoning problem to recommending sites for industrial development. The program provides up to 40 hours of technical assistance. Many communities entered into special contracts for additional services at cost.

ACUSHNET
- Town map update

ATTLEBORO
- Water supply protection ordinance
- Traffic and circulation study
- Comprehensive plan

BERKLEY
- Waste disposal alternatives

CARVER
- Route 44 Task Force assistance
- Technical assistance to planning board

DARTMOUTH
- Analysis of Route 6 business development

DIGHTON
- Landfill expansion
- Dighton/Taunton Truck Routing

FAIRHAVEN
- Ongoing technical planning and CDBG administration*
- CDBG application

FALL RIVER
- Ongoing technical assistance*
- Zoning map update
- Revolving loan fund application ($500,000)*
- Traffic circulation and parking

FREETOWN
- Commercial Area Revitalization District (CARD) information

LAKEVILLE
- CDAG application for water line improvements ($283,000)

MANSFIELD
- Technical assistance to planning board

MARION
- School enrollment projections for Old Rochester Regional School District*
- Zoning bylaws recodification
- Septic systems plan review

MATTAPOISETT
- Industrial site analysis*
- School enrollment projections*

MIDDLEBOROUGH
- CDBG administration*
- Downtown business survey
- Solid waste disposal options
- Commerce Park plan review
- Route 28 zoning review
- Study of routes 79 and 105

NEW BEDFORD
- Route 6 bridge replacement
- PCB clean-up monitoring
- Revolving loan fund application

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
- Zoning bylaws revision
- Drainage analysis

NORTON
- Cluster zoning bylaw
- Technical assistance to planning board
- Traffic study for routes 123 and 140 intersection

PLAINVILLE
- Technical assistance to planning board*
- Engineering review of subdivisions
- Regulations for zoning board of appeals
- Resource recovery plant review

PLYMPTON
- Sign bylaw
- Industrial zone feasibility

RAYNHAM
- Conservation and Recreation Plan update
- Zoning bylaws recodification
- Application for recreation site development

REHOBOTH
- Landfill inspections*
- Housing policies review

ROCHESTER
- Conservation and Recreation Plan update
- Open space grant application
- School enrollment projections*

SEEKONK
- Housing needs data
- Routes 114A and I-195 interchange traffic counts
- Traffic study of routes 114A, 44 and Arcade Avenue

SOMERSET
- Technical assistance to planning board
- Town government reorganization
- Grant application for master plan

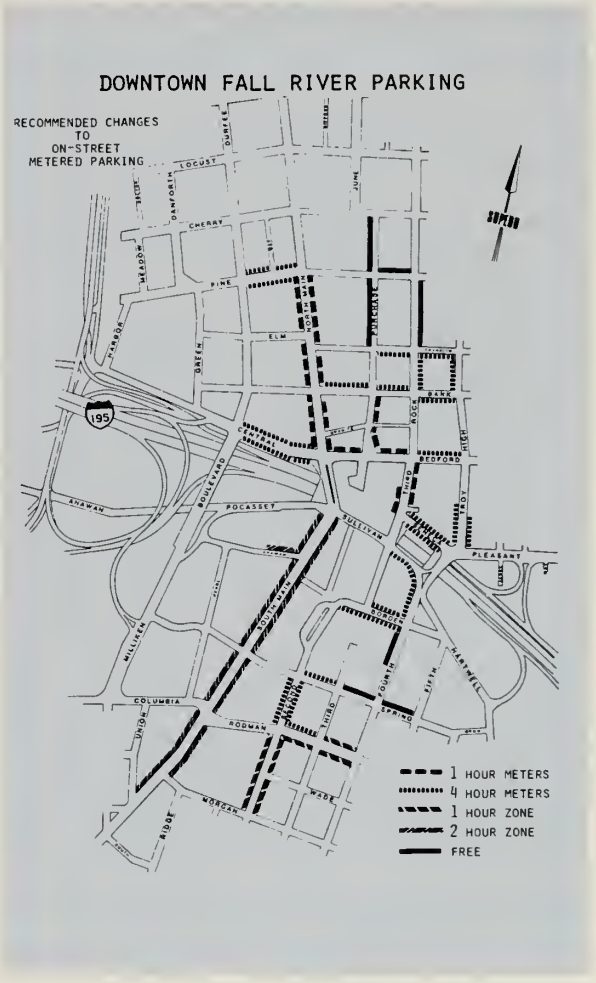
SWANSEA
- Zoning bylaw amendments
- Landfill inspections*
- Two CDBG applications for Ocean Grove
- Case House Redeployment Study
- Grant application for Friends of the Bluffs, Inc. ($15,000)

TAUNTON
- Ongoing technical assistance*
- Master Plan update
- Zoning ordinance recodification
- Zoning bylaws review
- Solid waste disposal options
- CDAG application for water line improvements ($283,000)
- Downtown parking deck application ($1 million)
- Downtown parking study
- Dighton/Taunton Truck Routing

WAREHAM
- Downtown parking study
- Traffic study of rts 6 and 28
- Cranberry Highway development

WESTPORT
- Open Space, Conservation and Recreation Plan assistance
- Master Plan assistance

*Special Contract



Financial Review

SRPEDD receives funds from federal and state agencies and member communities.

In fiscal year 1984 funding sources included:

- Economic Development Administration;
- Urban Mass Transportation Administration;
- Department of Transportation and Massachusetts Department of Public Works;
- Executive Office of Communities and Development;
- Massachusetts Historical Commission;
- Regional transit authorities; and
- Local contracts

In fiscal 1984 SRPEDD received $345,000 from federal and state agencies. Assessments on member communities, contracts with municipalities and other local revenue contributed another $173,000. SRPEDD's total budget was $518,000.

These funds supported planning in economic development, housing, downtown revitalization, transit, transportation, energy, water and air quality.

Approximately 68 percent of the funds paid for staff salaries and fringe benefits. Rent, utilities, travel, and other expenses accounted for the balance.

Program Spending 83-84

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	$ 87,000
TRANSPORTATION	162,000
TRANSIT	130,000
LOCAL CONTRACTS/ OTHER	139,000
TOTAL	$518,000

Commission and Staff

Commission*

ACUSHNET	Alfred Portway
	Leo N. Coons, Jr.
ATTLEBORO	Brenda Reed
	Melville Moody
BERKLEY	Lawrence Wilson
	S. Kenneth Woodward
CARVER	David Knight
	Timothy McGillicuddy
DARTMOUTH	Lawrence Cameron
	Basil Castaldi
DIGHTON	Allan Campbell
	Manuel Ferreira
FAIRHAVEN	Kenneth Vining
	Raymond Fleurent
FALL RIVER	Alfred Edwards
	Gregory Brilhante
FREETOWN	Cynthia Cardin
	Paul Magee
LAKEVILLE	Luke Leonard, Jr.
MANSFIELD	Richard Curley
	Anthony Fiore
MARION	Joseph Zora
	Robert Marso
MATTA-POISETT	James Huntoon
	William Matthews
MIDDLE-BOROUGH	Lawrence Carver
	Reinold Anderson
NEW BEDFORD	Denise Poyant
	David Kennedy
N. ATTLE-BOROUGH	Laurence Kubilus
	Patricia Redding
NORTON	William Jordan
	Phil Sheridan
PLAINVILLE	Andrea Soucy
	Richard Stenfeldt
PLYMPTON	Lee Johnson
	Wayne Barnes
RAYNHAM	Emeline MacDonald
	Robert Navin
REHOBOTH	Arthur Messier
	Diane Biello
ROCHESTER	George Bare
	Joseph Chamberlain
SEEKONK	Lawrence Pellerin
	Charles Terzian
SOMERSET	Donald Hussey
	Leonard Torchia
SWANSEA	Michael Finglas
	Brian Gingras
TAUNTON	Fernand Medeiros
	John Viveiros
WAREHAM	A. Clayton Fuller
	Frederick Tuttle
WESTPORT	Julia Enroth
	George Hall
FALL RIVER AREA	Stanley Silas
	M. Paula Raposa
NEW BEDFORD AREA	Heather G. Bare
	Lynda Pina

Committees

Basil Castaldi, Chairman
Economic Development
Nicholas Tangney, Chairman, Joint
Transportation Planning Group

Officers

Emeline MacDonald, Chairman
S. Kenneth Woodward, Vice-Chairman
Allan Campbell, Secretary
Richard Curley, Treasurer
George Bare, Asst. Treasurer
David Knight, Past Chairman

Staff

Stephen C. Smith, Executive Director

Albert Barbour, Senior Engineer
Joanne Bouchard, Secretary
Nancy Bumbaugh, Secretary
David D'Addario, Transp. Planner
Maria Gooch, Economic Dev. Coord.
Susan Green, Senior Secretary
James Hadfield, Sr. Transp. Planner
Laura Harbottle, Transit Planner
Roland Hebert, Transp. Plng. Coord.
Shirley Louro, Sr. Accountant
Kathleen MacRae, Economic Dev. Plnr.
Thomas Pisaturo, Comp. Plng. Coord.
John Pobst, Transit Planning Coord.
Steven Reckhow, Principal Planner
Charles Repeta, Transp. Plng. Mgr.
Anita Sabourin, Graphics Specialist
Susan Sherman, Draftsperson
Michele Stone, Administration Coord.
Rachel Tedesco, Comprehensive Plnr.
Wilbur Tirrell, Legal Specialist

*As of May 31, 1984

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 176
TAUNTON, MASS.

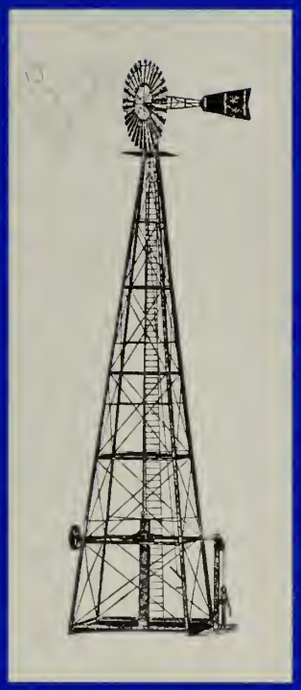
SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
25 BARNUM STREET, TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02780
TEL. (617) 824-1367

MASS.
Y3.SRI1:
981

STATE OF THE REGION

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

1981



OVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION
FEB 27 1985
University of Massachusetts
Depository Copy

CREDITS

WRITING AND EDITING, MARIA GOOCH

LAY-OUT AND PHOTOGRAPHY, ANITA SABOURIN, SUE SHERMAN

TYPING, JULIE PRESCOTT

SRPEDD
ANNUAL REPORT, 1981

CONTENTS

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE	2
STATE OF THE REGION	3
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	4
HOUSING AND URBAN RENEWAL	6
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS	8
ENERGY EFFICIENCY	10
TRANSPORTATION	13
MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE	16
FINANCIAL REVIEW	19
SRPEDD COMMISSION	20

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As my second term as chairman draws to an end, I take this opportunity to share a number of successes, as well as some concerns.

We have seen a drastic change in federal attitude towards programs in which SRPEDD has been involved. To date we have not felt the total impact, but it is expected we will by this summer. It may well mean loss of half our staff.

Under the capable leadership of Alec Zaleski, we can expect that whatever can be done will be done. We may find ourselves moving to a new location, Taunton. Whether or not this occurs, I thank the officials of Marion.

On a more positive note, I offer my appreciation to all those who have supported this year's goal of obtaining more community involvement. Many communities have shown their faith in SRPEDD and have entered into contracts with the organization for technical assistance tasks.

We are also incorporating a Regional Development Corporation through the U.S. Small Business Administration to provide financial assistance to small businesses. We need everyone's support on this innovative step.

Finally, I have appreciated everyone's support this year and encourage each and every one of you to do your part in improving our region. I hope that SRPEDD will also continue to play a very important role towards that end.

David G. Knight

STATE OF THE REGION

Since the establishment of SRPEDD in 1969 many changes have taken place in the region. With federal and state funds, industrial parks, roads, water and sewage treatment plants and other amenities have been built. Downtowns have also been rehabilitated and the state of the region appears to be on the upswing.

In 1981 many important changes also occurred -- the major turn in federal policies, passage of "Proposition 2½," and state actions triggered by these changes.

Efforts to keep down taxes are politically attractive, but often unwise in the long run. Failure to appropriate adequate money for upkeep of roads, buildings, bridges, railroads, water and sewer lines may have an impact on this region's development. In addition the cost of replacement or restoration may be beyond our means.

Meanwhile the District still has to address major regional concerns. The role of SRPEDD is to provide technical assistance, coordination and advice on the best allocation of limited resources. The intent is to propose solutions which do not solve today's problems at the expense of tomorrow.

Progress will be slow in this time of financial constraints, but visible progress is being made, and SRPEDD can take credit for some small share of the overall effort.

Alexander V. Zaleski

GROWTH EXPECTED

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

After a decade of preparing industrial parks, a major highway system and other amenities for economic growth, it has become apparent that southeastern Massachusetts needs to reflect the image of readiness.

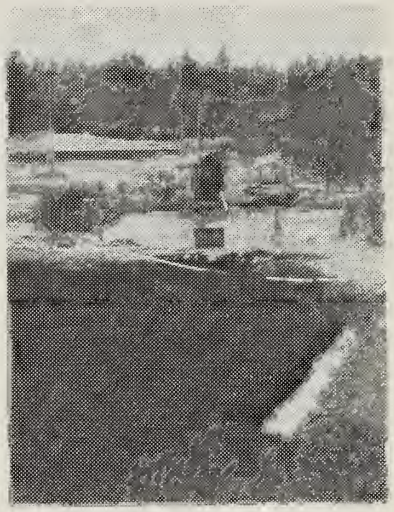
In 1981 SRPEDD, working with local officials, focused on promoting the region to growth industries. SRPEDD published its overall economic development program, Revitalizing Southeastern Massachusetts, and a fact book. Both received excellent media coverage.

The reports outline attributes which make the region ideal for development -- a large labor force; industrial land with water, sewer and utilities; low cost of living; highway network providing accessibility to major areas; and strategic location close to major educational, recreational and cultural centers.

The fact book's most important function is to provide hard data necessary for development decisions.

Under the leadership of Chester Twardzicki as chairman, SRPEDD's Economic Development Committee ranked projects in the region for federal funding purposes. The ranking is a major portion of the overall economic development program.

Some of last year's top priority projects include: expansion of the New Bedford Industrial Park into Dartmouth, $1.8 million; expansion of the Fall River Airport Industrial Park, $1.9 million; and extension of the Myles Standish Boulevard in the Taunton Myles Standish Industrial Park, $500,000.



NEW APARTMENTS AND HOPE FOR DOWNTOWNS

HOUSING AND URBAN RENEWAL

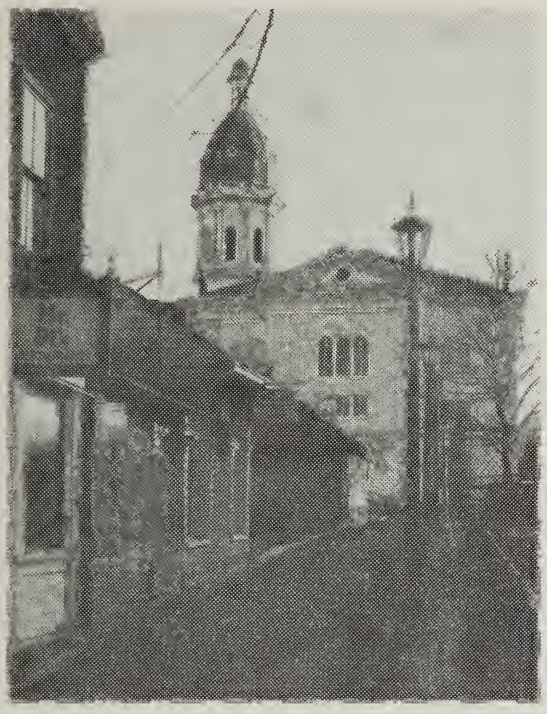
Last year 15 housing projects providing a total of 1,300 units were under construction. Some of the major projects included the Taber Mill and Car Barn in New Bedford, Borden and Academy buildings in Fall River, Hope Gardens in Attleboro, and School Street Apartments in Taunton.

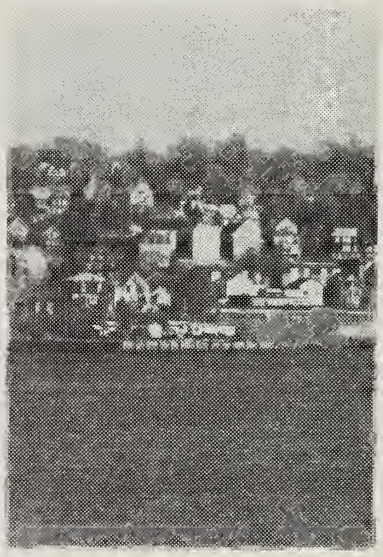
These projects contributed substantially towards meeting the goals established by SRPEDD's housing plan.

Downtown revitalization efforts also continued in the cities and larger towns of the region. In 1981 SRPEDD was actively involved in preparing commercial area revitalization district plans for the towns of Middleborough and Wareham. These plans provide incentives for revitalization by making downtowns eligible for low interest rate loans.

In order to increase the supply of housing in the region, SRPEDD sponsored a $300,000 housing conversion program. The program was designed primarily to assist homeowners to convert large homes into two or more dwelling units. SRPEDD will contribute $88,000 towards the program and bank loan commitments are expected to make up the balance. SRPEDD's contribution is being funded with bonus money provided by the federal government.

SRPEDD is one of the few regional planning agencies in the nation to receive this bonus money due to the preparation of a housing opportunities plan.





PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

In 1981, SRPEDD focused on developing water supply protection programs for seven communities. Since SRPEDD initiated the program, 19 communities have participated to some degree. The program is extremely important to communities which depend on groundwater for drinking purposes. The intent of the program is to safeguard these "out of sight" water supplies.

SRPEDD also initiated other environmental programs and was involved in areas of major concern: urban stormwater runoff control programs for Attleboro and Taunton; an oil spill preparation program for coastal communities; and a study on the feasibility of marine waste pumpout.

SRPEDD continued to provide technical assistance to the Mattapoisett River Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee. SRPEDD prepared a water allocation plan for the aquifer which was accepted by the four towns involved.

SRPEDD was named to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Acushnet River Estuary Disaster and given the responsibility by Representative Roger Goyette for evaluating the economic impact of polychlorinated biphenols (PCB's).

In an effort to maintain the environmental integrity of the region, SRPEDD has been closely involved in monitoring hazardous waste facility siting proposals, developing regulations and providing information on this important issue.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

In 1981 SRPEDD's energy management efforts focused on building an "Energy Efficient Southeastern Massachusetts."

Considering the need for air conditioning in the "sun belt," and the projected large increases in natural gas prices, energy costs in the Northeast are probably not much worse than any place else.

In addition, the region has been actively pursuing major energy projects such as oil to coal conversion at the Brayton Point Power Plant; the New England Energy Park; and waste to energy conversions.

SRPEDD provided technical assistance to EG&G, the company proposing to build an energy park in a 3,800 acre site in Fall River. The park is designed around a $1.8 billion coal gasification plant, and will provide an alternative source of energy for the region, lessening dependence on foreign oil.

SRPEDD is a member of the Energy Park Advisory Committee and assisted in preparing a funding proposal for maximum community review of the proposed development.

To assist industries in becoming more energy efficient, SRPEDD sponsored a workshop on waste heat utilization. SRPEDD has also been working with Friends of the Bluff in the Ocean Grove community of Swansea to develop a district heating proposal utilizing waste heat from nearby Brayton Point Power Plant.

Dr. Karl Eklund, SRPEDD's energy coordinator, published myriad articles in magazines and local papers to deliver the "energy message" for Southeastern Massachusetts. Representatives of industry and energy suppliers met with Dr. Eklund several times throughout the year to discuss energy issues as an Energy Subcommittee.

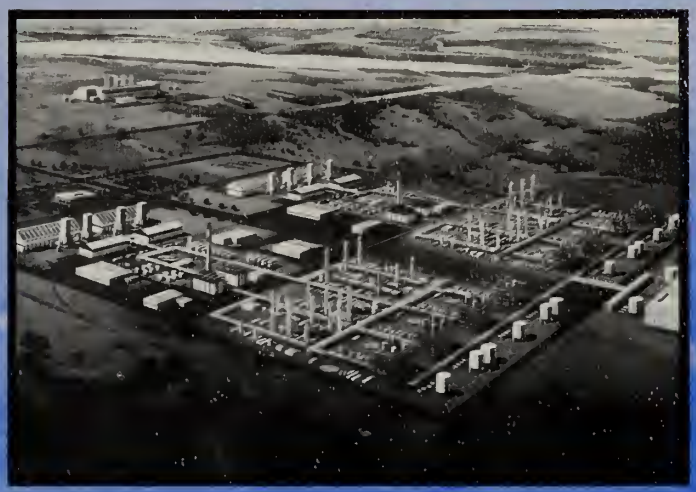
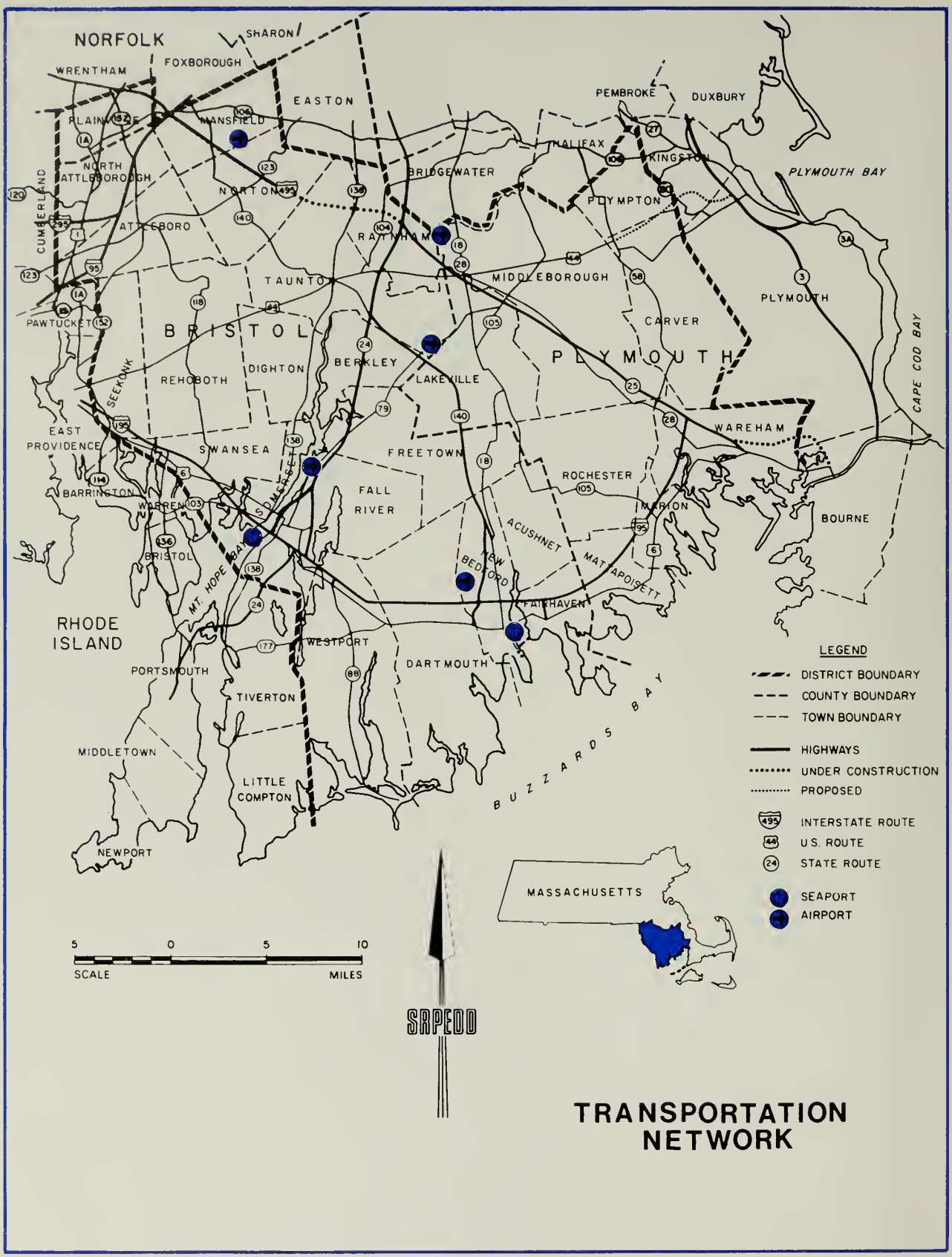
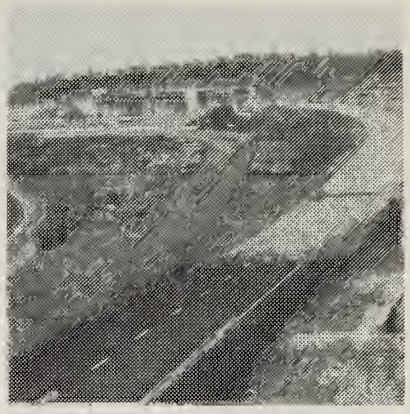


Photo courtesy of C. E. Maguire, Inc.



TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

INTERSTATE 495
TRANSPORTATION



With the completion of Interstate 495 scheduled for early 1983 the region will have the final link in its highway system. In 1981 major progress was made in the construction of I-495. The highway is expected to open up the region for major development.

SRPEDD continued to work towards the replacement of the Brightman Street Bridge from Fall River to Somerset and the Route 6 bridge from New Bedford to Fairhaven. SRPEDD also worked with the towns of Dighton and Berkley to obtain a consensus on replacement of the Berkley-Dighton Bridge. The need for replacement of these bridges has been demonstrated by studies and public opinion.

Under the chairmanship of Nicholas Tangney, SRPEDD's Joint Transportation Planning Group continued to set priorities for transportation projects throughout the region.

In 1981 the group ranked ten transportation projects which they deemed to be most important in southeastern Massachusetts. The projects include: Replacement of the New Bedford/Fairhaven Bridge, Brightman Street Bridge and Wareham Narrows Bridge; relocation of Route 44 through Carver and Plympton; eight locations in Taunton; downtown traffic improvements in Attleboro; Route 114A congestion improvements in Seekonk; reconstruction of Route 138 in Taunton and Pleasant Street in Fall River; and Faunce Corner Road congestion improvements in Dartmouth.

TRANSIT

SRPEDD continued to provide planning services to the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority and the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority.

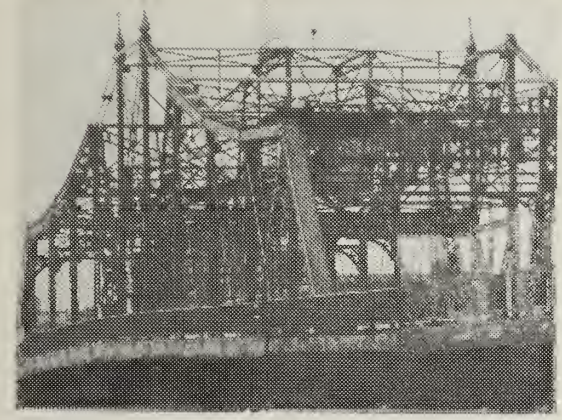
Transit services increased again in 1981 for both GATRA and SRTA. GATRA added five new buses to its fleet for a total of eight and SRTA opened a new bus terminal in the City of Fall River.

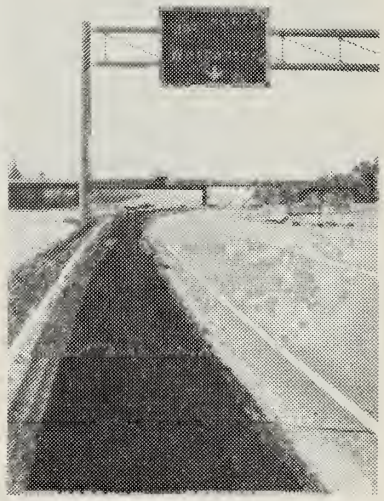
Faced with the abandonment of rail freight service by CONRAIL, SRPEDD provided assistance in the establishment of a rail users association. SRPEDD continued to monitor the situation to insure that needed freight service is maintained.

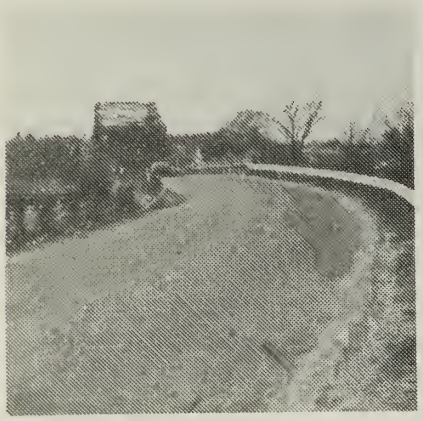
AIR QUALITY

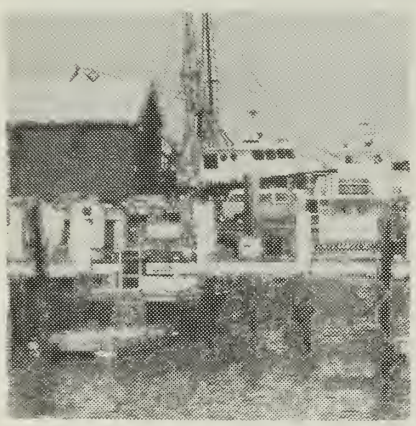
In terms of air quality, SRPEDD continued to analyze the pollution reduction capabilities of numerous measures including: increasing right turns on red intersections; improving driving conditions; and establishing more park-and-ride lots.

The goals of SRPEDD's air quality program is to bring this region into compliance with federally mandated standards for carbon monoxide, ozone, and oxides of nitrogen.









MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

In 1981, twenty-two communities took advantage of SRPEDD's free municipal assistance program. The program provides up to 40 hours of technical services per community. Many communities entered into special contracts for additional services at cost.

ATTLEBORO
- Subdivision rules and regulations
- Urban stormwater runoff control program
- Water supply protection program
- Subdivision analysis for sewage disposal
- Advice on zoning for a golf course

BERKLEY
- Business zone feasibility study
- Berkley-Dighton bridge replacement
- Review of subdivision regulations

CARVER
- Recreation and tourism study
- Advice on zoning issues
- Review of refinery proposal

DIGHTON
- Water supply protection program

FAIRHAVEN
- Review of zoning for Union Street Wharf
- Review of subdivisions, proposed zoning changes, housing projects and site analyses

FALL RIVER
- Funding proposal for evaluation of the New England Energy Park
- Data base

LAKEVILLE
- Open space and recreation plan

MANSFIELD
- Water supply protection program
- Community development program application
- Review of earth removal and fee schedules

MARION
- Review of dredging plans for a marina

MIDDLEBOROUGH
- Update of open space and recreation plan
- Commercial area revitalization district
- Industrial development study

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
- Urban stormwater runoff control program
- Job description for town planner/engineer
- Land use master plan

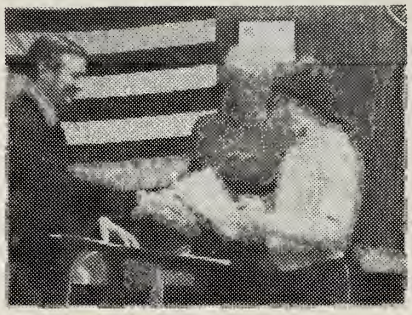
NORTON
- Proposal for master plan update

PLAINVILLE
- Housing assistance plan
- Subdivision regulations and zoning amendments

PLYMPTON
- Water supply protection program
- Legal rights to subsurface water

RAYNHAM
- Comprehensive growth policy plan
- Water supply protection program
- Information on floodplain zoning

REHOBOTH
- Landfill inspections
- Floodplain and wetlands map
- Zoning by-law amendments for mobile homes, waste disposal and floodplains/wetlands



MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE

SEEKONK
- Water supply protection program
- Zoning for vacant public buildings

SOMERSET
- Revisions to zoning by-law

SWANSEA
- Landfill inspections
- Economic development funding applications for Ocean Grove

TAUNTON
- Data base
- Urban stormwater runoff control program
- Traffic analysis for Morton Hospital
- Site analyses for mobile home parks

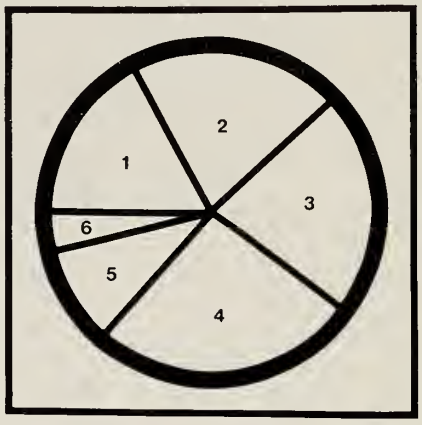
WAREHAM
- Commercial area revitalization districts
- Street lights location criteria

WESTPORT
- Master plan update
- Water supply protection program

In addition, all member communities benefit from reviews and comments by SRPEDD of all zoning amendments and most project funding applications and environmental analyses, including state projects affecting SRPEDD communities.

SRPEDD also has an extensive data base which is available to member communities and the general public.

FINANCIAL REVIEW



SRPEDD receives funds from federal and state agencies and member communities.

Federal sources include the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Development Administration and Urban Mass Transportation Administration. Federal highway transportation funds are matched by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. The Office of Coastal Zone Management provided funds for coastal impact planning.

In fiscal 1981, SRPEDD received $425,000 from federal and state agencies. Assessments on member communities, contracts with municipalities and other local revenue contributed another $118,000.

These funds supported regional planning in economic development, housing, downtown revitalization, transit, transportation, energy, water and air quality. Municipal assistance, regional reviews and public participation were incorporated under planning activities.

Approximately 75 percent of the funds paid staff salaries and fringe benefits. Rent, utilities, travel, and other expenses accounted for the balance.

	FUNDING SOURCES FISCAL YEAR 1980-81	
1	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	$ 89,000
2	COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING	115,000
3	TRANSPORTATION/AIR QUALITY	121,000
4	TRANSIT	143,000
5	WATER QUALITY/COASTAL ZONE	53,000
6	LOCAL CONTRACTS/OTHER	22,000
	TOTAL	$543,000

SRPEDD COMMISSION

1981-1982

ACUSHNET - Eugene Miller, Jr., Normand Rivet
ATTLEBORO - Gerald Keane, Jesse Armell, Jr.
BERKLEY - Lawrence Wilson, S. Kenneth Woodward
CARVER - David Knight, Tim McGillicuddy, Jr.
DARTMOUTH - James Lancaster, Basil Castaldi
DIGHTON - Allan Campbell, Manuel Ferreira
FAIRHAVEN - Kenneth Vining, Raymond Fleurent
FALL RIVER - Alfred Edwards, James Mendonca
FREETOWN - Richard Brown
LAKEVILLE - Luke Leonard, Jr., Kevin St. George
MANSFIELD - Richard Curley, Grace Genatossio
MARION - Joseph Zora, Robert Sundblad
MATTAPOISETT - Clayton King
MIDDLEBOROUGH - Lawrence Carver, Paul Beauchesne
NEW BEDFORD - Robert Davis, Richard Walega
NO. ATTLEBOROUGH - Raymond Payson,
W. Russell Schofield, Jr.
NORTON - William Jordan, Phillip Sheridan
PLAINVILLE - Jack Stone, Bruce Hastings
PLYMPTON - Lee Johnson, D. Howard Randall, Jr.
RAYNHAM - Emeline MacDonald, John Lovenbury
REHOBOTH - Arthur Messier, Diane Biello
ROCHESTER - Julia Enroth, Joseph Chamberlain
SEEKONK - Stephen Navega, Charles Terzian
SOMERSET - Donald Hussey, Leonard Torchia
SWANSEA - Michael Finglas, Brian Gingras
TAUNTON - Fernand Medeiros, William Lane
WAREHAM - John Kelenosy, Robert Packard
WESTPORT - Charles Costa, George Hall
FALL RIVER AREA - Donald Geary
NEW BEDFORD AREA - Eddie Johnson, Robert Alves

OFFICERS

David G. Knight, Chairman
Emeline Macdonald, Vice-chairman
Allan Campbell, Secretary
S. Kenneth Woodward, Treasurer
Fernand Medeiros, Assistant Treasurer
Julia S. Enroth, Past Chairman

COMMITTEES

Chester Twardzicki, Chairman
Economic Development
Albert Cartier, Chairman
Housing and Community Development
Nicholas Tangney, Chairman
Joint Transportation Planning Group
Raymond Fleurent, Chairman
Zoning, Land Use and Environment

SRPEDD STAFF

Alexander Zaleski, AICP, Executive Director
Albert Barbour, PE, Senior Engineer
Karl Eklund,Ph.D., Energy Management Coordinator
Rosemary Carroll, Community Relations Director
William Gardner, Transit Planner
Maria Gooch, Economic Development Coordinator
Susan Green, Senior Secretary
James Hadfield, Air Quality Planner
Roland Hebert, Transportation Plng. Coordinator
Edward Hollingshead, Air Quality Project
David Landry, Business Manager
George Largess, Transit Planner
Mark Linse, Economic Development Planner
Shirley Louro, Accountant
William Maravell, PE, Environmental Plng. Coord.
Judith McCaffrey, Secretary
Lisa Monteiro, Clerk Typist
Jeffrey O'Connell, Senior Comprehensive Planner
Thomas Pisaturo, Comprehensive Plng. Coord.
John Pobst, Transit Planning Coordinator
Juliana Prescott, Secretary
Charles Repeta, Transportation Plng. Manager
Steven Rose, Senior Transportation Planner
Elisabeth Ruben, Housing Planner
Anita Sabourin, Graphics Specialist
Mark Scannell, Transportation Planner
Susan Sherman, Draftsperson
Stephen Smith, Comprehensive Planning Manager
Michele Stone, Administration Coordinator
Wilbur Tirrell, Esq., Legal Specialist